

# Town of Newington



## Annual Report 2011-2012

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Newington Transition Academy

Edited by:  
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# About Newington

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## Mission

*Our mission is to offer excellent community services by maximizing our resources in a proactive, responsible, and accountable manner that enhances the quality of life for all generations in Newington.*

## Government

Newington received its Charter from the State of Connecticut in 1871 and is currently governed under the Council-Manager form of government with a nine member Town Council. The Mayor, elected separately, is a member and presiding official of the Council with the power to vote. Recognized as the official head of the Town for ceremonial and military purposes, the Mayor has the authority to appoint the Town Attorney and the Clerk of the Council.

The Town Manager is appointed by the Town Council and serves as the Chief Executive and administrative officer of the Town. The Town Manager is empowered to supervise and administer all commissions, boards, departments, offices, and agencies of the Town except for those elected by the people, appointed by the Council, appointed by the Mayor, or appointed by regional, state, or federal authority. The Town Manager is also responsible for the faithful execution of all laws and ordinances governing the Town.

## Location

Newington, located five (5) miles south of Hartford, is centrally located in the New York – Boston corridor. Travelers have easy access to Route 5/15, Route 9, and major interstate highways I-84 and I-91. Newington is conveniently located near Brainard Airport and Bradley International Airport. Transportation services also include buses to Hartford and New Britain and rail transportation stations in Hartford and Berlin.

## Taxes

Newington's mill rate in 2011-12 was 30.02. The mill rate is applied to the Grand List of fair market value. All commercial and residential properties were revalued in 2011.

## History

Newington, part of the Town of Wethersfield until 1871, is located in an area which was referred to in early times as Pipestave Swamp, then Cow Plain, and later, West Farms; such names reflected the area's use. It was first a source of staves for making pipes (large sized barrels) used in colonial trade, and later a pasture for cattle. It eventually became home to the new farms taken up by descendants of early Wethersfield settlers

who had been given grants on the western frontier of their riverside town. By 1721, there were enough new farmers on these grants to request that the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut give them the name Newington, which means "new town in the meadow."

Since most early Newington inhabitants were related to Wethersfield families, Newington accepted government by Wethersfield Town Meeting until 1871. When the railroad came through Newington in the 1830's, the frequent and inexpensive transportation attracted growth and further expansion. Years later, however, a Wethersfield Town Meeting refused to approve expenses for highway improvements for better access to the railroad. Ready to take government into its own hands, Newington applied to the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut for incorporation, which was approved in 1871.

Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, both the trolley car and the automobile brought more development. Newington's location in the center of the state, combined with steady improvements to the highway system, attracted many new residents and businesses. The trolley, replaced by regular bus service, made commuting to Hartford and New Britain convenient. By 1966, the increasing population had outgrown the Town Meeting form of government and the Town adopted the Council-Manager form of government.

## Historical Sites

The **Kellogg-Eddy House**, a typical New England Georgian-style farmhouse, was built in 1808 by General Martin Kellogg.

The **Enoch Kelsey House** was built in 1799 and was the home of a Connecticut farmer and tinsmith. It features rare, freehand-painted wall decorations, basement to attic paneling, as well as a beehive oven and fireplaces.

The **National Iwo Jima Memorial Monument**, located off Route 9 at the Newington/New Britain line, was dedicated on February 23, 1995 in memory of those who gave their lives at Iwo Jima. The names of the 100 Connecticut marines killed at Iwo Jima are inscribed on the base.

# Newington Government

# Town Council

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***Mike Lenares, Mayor (Through 11-10-11)***  
***Stephen Woods, Mayor (Effective 11-10-11)***

The Town Council is the governing and legislative body of the Town with all the rights, powers, duties, and obligations conferred by law. Council members are responsible for adopting the budget, fixing the tax rate for the Town, proposing and amending ordinances and resolutions for the execution of the powers vested in the Town, for the government of the Town and management of its businesses, and for the preservation of good order, peace, health and safety of the Town and its inhabitants.

The Town Council consists of the Mayor and eight members elected from the Town at large every two years. The Mayor, elected separately, is a member and presiding official of the Council with power to vote. The Town Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are broadcast live on Newington Community Television.

## 2011-2012 Highlights

- Accepted the resignation of Councilor Meg Casasanta from the Town Council on July 1, 2011 and appointed Beth DelBuono as her replacement.
- Authorized the Town Manager to enter into a contract with Covanta of Wallingford for solid waste disposal.
- Authorized the Town Manager into a Non-Emergency Interagency Agreement with the Mid-State Task Force.
- Honored Ellen Bredice as the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year.
- Authorized the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Mapcap, LLC., for the Town to acquire 28 acres of land on Cedar Mountain.
- Approved the Newington Teacher's Association contract, effective July 1, 2012—June 30, 2015.
- Honored Richard Brown as the 2011 Volunteer of the year.
- Dedicated conference room L-101 as the Ambler Room in honor of a longtime volunteer, the late E. Curtis Ambler.
- Amended the Town Code of Ordinances Ch. 121, Voting Districts, to make slight changes to the Town's districts as a result of the 2010 census.
- Established and charged a Charter Revision Commission to review and recommend amendments to the Town's Charter.
- Appointed Craig Minor to the vacant Town Planner position.



Mayor  
Stephen Woods



Councilor  
Terry Borjeson



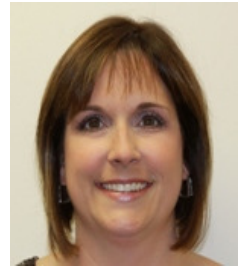
Councilor  
John "Jay" Bottalico



Councilor  
Clarke Castelle



Councilor  
Myra Cohen



Councilor  
Beth DelBuono



Councilor  
Maureen Klett



Councilor  
Scott McBride



Councilor  
David Nagel

- Approved an additional tax relief programs for elderly and veteran residents.
- Adopted the Town of Newington Long-Range Capital Improvement Plan 2012-2013 through 2016-17
- Adopted the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget with total appropriations of \$1103,441,941 and set a mill rate of 32.64 mills.
- Authorized the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with the State of CT to receive grant funding in the amount of \$1 million to acquire the former Marcap property.
- Established a project building committee for School Career Technical Program Renovation Projects at Newington High School, John Wallace and Martin Kellogg Middle Schools.
- Entered into an agreement with the IBPO police union to eliminate the vacant Animal Control Officer (ACO) position, and to combine ACO services with the Town of Wethersfield.

# Newington Administration

# Town Manager

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## ***John L. Salomone, Town Manager***

The Town Manager, appointed by the Town Council for an indefinite period of time at the pleasure of the Council, serves as the Chief Executive of the Town and manages the day-to-day operations of the Town departments. In addition to supporting the goals and objectives of the Town Council, the Town Manager, with the assistance of Town staff, is responsible for Purchasing, Risk Management, and Personnel. The Town Manager also serves as the local Traffic Authority, Public Safety Director, and Local Emergency Planning Coordinator.

## **2012-2013 Highlights**

- Attended numerous meetings of CROC and participated on the CROC Municipal Services Committee.
- Attended and hosted several Mid State Collaborative meetings with area towns.
- Attended various grand opening ceremonies throughout the year.
- Worked with department heads on budget and CIP preparations and prepared the Town Manager's proposed budget in conjunction with the Finance Department.
- Attended several project meetings and several team meetings regarding various issues including the Town Hall space needs, Market Square Improvements, the Transition Academy, Cedar Mountain and the Capital Improvement (CIP) Committee.
- Met with residents on an as-needed basis to address and resolve various issues and concerns.
- Met with staff, department heads and union representatives on an as-needed basis to address and resolve employee concerns and personnel issues.
- Met with various VA Hospital and development officials regarding the proposed Victory Garden housing development located on VA property.
- Worked with the Town Council and staff to amend and administer an updated blighted property ordinance.
- Oversaw the Town's Emergency Operations Center in preparation of, during, and in the aftermath of the October 29, 2011 storm "Alfred", which caused extensive tree damage and widespread extended power outages for nearly 97% of Town residents.

- Entered into an agreement with Covanta of Wallingford for the Town's trash and recycling disposal.
- Entered into the collective bargaining process for the AFSCME union to renegotiate the contract expiring on June 30, 2012.
- Worked with various department heads for recommendations to the Charter Revision Commission.
- Attended the annual Senior and Disabled Center Volunteer Recognition Dinner
- Interviewed candidates for all open full-time positions.

## **Employee Anniversaries**

### **25 Years**

- Carol Aregood—Deputy Assessor

### **15 Years**

- Mary Ann Ficocelli—Police Dept.
- Hermas Lavoie, Jr.—Highway
- Therese McCusker—Sr. Center
- Thomas Molloy—Highway Superintendent

### **10 Years**

- Paul Camara—Police Officer
- Michael Chasse—Highway
- Joseph Cirigliano—Parks & Grounds
- Eleanor Eichner—Sr. Center
- Jeanette Francini—Library
- Christopher Greenlaw—Town Engineer
- Denise Haas—Sr. Center
- William Jordan—Police Officer
- Richard Mulhall—Police Chief

### **5 Years**

- Corinne Aldinger—Revenue Collector
- Shannon Armstrong—Police Officer
- Timothy Buggee—Police Officer
- Lynn Caley—Library
- James Deschenes—Public Safety Dispatcher
- Matthew Desposito—Police Officer
- Richard Huggard—Human Services
- Timothy Rinaldo—Police Officer
- Henry Rodriguez—Police Officer

# Newington Administration

## Town Clerk

### ***Tanya Lane, Town Clerk***

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for preserving all of the Town's official records, many of which date back to Newington's inception in 1871, as well as making them easily accessible to the public. The office operates in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, the Town Charter and Code of Ordinances.

Responsibilities include the recording and the search & retrieval of all land records, Veterans' Discharges and vital statistics; maintaining the agenda notices and minutes of Town Council and other boards and commissions, as well as tracking membership and terms for all board and commission members; preparing ballots and issuing absentee ballots for all elections; keeping abreast of all pertinent legislation (the department administers over 600 State Statutes); responding to and researching numerous public inquiries; updating the Code of Ordinances; issuing various licenses and permits, and maintaining financial records disclosing fee collection for the Town and the State.

The office is charged with insuring the integrity & longevity of all the documents entrusted to our care so that the Town has accurate & accessible data for future generations.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Received a \$6,000 grant to scan and digitize an additional 86 volumes of land records for online search capability. Patrons can now view and print images from July 1997 through the present time.
- The Town of Newington joined 41 other Connecticut municipalities as part of the Connecticut Town Clerks' Portal providing 24/7 access to view and print copies of land records. This undertaking was a service to constituents and a revenue producing venture.

### **2012-2013 Goals**

- Utilize grant funding to install Laserfiche software to manage and retrieve information more efficiently and accurately.
- Upgrade current marriage license and dog license software with vendor modules installed at no cost to the Town.
- Scan and digitize more land record images with the goal of creating a 40-year online searchable database.
- Implement a way to receive, index, transmit, store and archive electronic documents. The Connecticut State Library is working through the adoption process.
- Collaborate with the IT Department to initiate a town-wide computerized document management system.

- Replace the current method of tracking absentee ballots with newer software accessed through the Connecticut Voter Registration System.
- Seek opportunities to promote staff development.

<b><u>Town Clerk Statistical Summary 2011-12</u></b>		
<b><u>LAND RECORDS</u></b>	<b><u>2011-12</u></b>	<b><u>2010-11</u></b>
Documents	5236	5773
Maps	53	43
<b><u>VITAL STATISTICS</u></b>		
Births	245	245
Marriages	117	204
Deaths	415	324
<b><u>LICENSES</u></b>		
Sporting	654	756
Dog	1847	1993
<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></b>		
Veteran's Discharges	46	47
Trade Name Certificates	85	63
Liquor Permits	50	42
<b><u>RECEIPTS- TOWN</u></b>	<b><u>2011-12</u></b>	<b><u>2010-11</u></b>
Recording Fees	\$ 140,982.00	\$ 146,974.00
Conveyance Tax	\$ 176,623.56	\$ 192,847.79
Document Preservation	\$ 10,279.00	\$ 10,437.00
Vital Statistics	\$ 31,504.00	\$ 28,680.00
Dog Licenses	\$ 1,826.50	\$ 1,918.00
Sporting Licenses	\$ 227.00	\$ 277.00
Copy Fees	\$ 17,056.55	\$ 15,120.35
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,478.65	\$ 3,639.00
<b>TOTAL GEN. FUND</b>	<b>\$ 380,977.26</b>	<b>\$ 399,893.14</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS- STATE</u></b>	<b><u>2011-12</u></b>	<b><u>2010-11</u></b>
Document Preservation	\$ 10,246.00	\$ 10,502.00
Dog License Surcharge	\$ 4,124.00	\$ 4,260.00
Dog Licenses	\$ 10,484.00	\$ 10,854.00
Sporting Licenses	\$ 7,362.00	\$ 8,204.00
State Treasurer	\$ 184,386.00	\$ 185,760.00
LoCip	\$ 15,363.00	\$ 15,480.00
<b>TOTAL STATE</b>	<b>\$ 231,965.00</b>	<b>\$ 235,060.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 612,942.26</b>	<b>\$ 634,953.14</b>



# Information Technology

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## ***Paul Boutot, Director***

The Department of Information and Technology provides strategic and policy direction for the implementation and management of technology for the Town of Newington. Core activities include development of the Town's IT strategic plan, technology support, policy formulation, and the review and revision of technology standards.

### **Mission**

*Information Systems and Technology will provide leadership, policy guidance and assistance in the use of technology while offering the highest quality technology-based services, in a cost-effective manner, and maintaining a secure, robust and efficient communications network for our departments and the community we serve.*

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Quarantined 355,896 unsolicited spam email messages and 7,451 viruses/ Trojans.
- Processed over 1,451 formal help desk requests.
- Processed 418 Service Center requests via town website.
- The town's website saw approximately 298,481 visits and 799,002 page views.
- Town telephone and voicemail system replaced.
- Board of Education – Newington High School – telephone and voicemail system replaced.

- Emergency Operations Center deployments for Hurricane Irene and Winter Storm Alfred.
- Patron Pay-for-Print and PC Access system (CASSIE) at Lucy Robbins Welles Library.
- Government Finance Officers Associate presentation on use of tablet computers.
- iPad deployment (Electronic Agendas) and training for Town Council members.
- Phase I installation of state-wide fiber optic build out (Police Department & Fire Headquarters).

### **2012-2013 Goals**

- Work with Town departments to help identify areas where technology can assist them in reaching their goals and objectives for internal and external purposes.
- Review expansion of virtual desktop infrastructure to all areas of town network.

# Registrar of Voters

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## ***Linda Cultrera (R) • Marie Fox (D)***

The office of the Registrar of Voters is established and governed by the General Statutes of the State of CT, the office of the Secretary of State, and the Elections Enforcement and Infractions Division.

### **Registrars' Responsibilities:**

- Responsibility for the maintenance of the records of all registered and removed voters and responsible for the upkeep and general maintenance of the 36 Town-owned voting machines.
- Complete the State-mandated annual canvass by NCOA and telephone.
- Supervise primaries, special referenda, and general elections.
- Responsible for the hiring and training of election officials.

- Oversee the eight polling places, all of which are handicapped accessible and supervise absentee balloting at six local facilities.
- Hold mandated and special voting maker sessions, including one at the high school.

### **Polling Places (all handicapped accessible)**

District 1: Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street  
District 2: Ruth L. Chaffee School, 160 Superior Ave.  
District 3: Anna Reynolds School, 85 Reservoir Road  
District 4: Elizabeth Green School, 30 Thomas Street  
District 5: John Wallace Middle School, 71 Halleran Drive  
District 6: John Patterson School, 120 Church Street  
District 7: Martin Kellogg Middle School, 155 Harding Ave.  
District 8: John Wallace Middle School, 71 Halleran Drive



# Facilities Management

## ***Robert Korpak, Director***

The facilities management department has the main responsibility to provide for the physical maintenance of Town Manager designated buildings to the level allowed by Council approved funding. Typically this includes repair and maintenance of the major building components such as heating and cooling systems. The department also manages capital improvement projects for these same buildings whether funded by the Town or through grant funding that this department is able to obtain.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Design and construction of the Newington Schools Transition Academy within the Town Hall which included the total renovation of the East wing of the building for this new occupancy.
- Design and construction of the lower level of the Town Hall to accommodate the move of the Building, Planning and Engineering departments to this area as a result of the Transition Academy. These projects were run concurrently and were completed within budget and met the schedule requirements to allow the new academy to open for the school year.
- Design and installation of a new chiller and piping system for the Senior and Disabled Center to replace the failing cooling system in the building. A major portion of the actual piping installations were completed during the power outage and enabled the work to be completed causing little disruption to services in the building as a result.
- Implemented a new Town Hall security system which included the replacement of all locks within the building and surveillance equipment installations.
- Design and installation of a state of the art audio/video system in a lower level conference room to allow for the relocation of the Town Council meeting within this space as necessary as well as enabling televised meetings from this space.
- Design and installation of a new fire alarm system for the Senior and Disabled Center to replace the failing system which had begun to cause numerous false alarms for the building.

### **2012-2013 Goals**

- Lead the Town hall building committee through the design phases of a renovation to the Town Hall leading to a possible referendum during 2014.
- Continue a yearly comprehensive survey of the physical conditions and deterioration of Town Buildings to provide long range forecasts to the CIP committee as required maintaining accurate capital expenditure needs.
- Continue to schedule roof replacements and major building heating component replacements as priority items and as budget allows during the next year.

<b>Department Phone Numbers</b>	
Assessor	860-665-8530
Building	860-665-8580
Engineering	860-665-8570
Facilities Management	860-665-8579
Finance	860-665-8520
Fire	860-667-5900 (routine) 911 (emergency)
Fire Marshal	860-667-5910
Health District	860-665-8588
Highway Sanitation Division	860-667-5810 860-667-5874
Human Services	860-665-8590
Information Technology	860-665-8555
Lucy Robbins Welles Library	860-665-8700
Parks & Recreation	860-665-8666
Police	860-666-8445 (routine) 911 (emergency)
Registrar of Voters	860-665-8516 (Democratic) 860-665-8517 (Republican)
Revenue Collection	860-665-8540
Senior & Disabled Center	860-665-8778
Town Clerk	860-665-8545
Town Manager	860-665-8510
Town Planner	860-665-8575

# Finance Department

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## ***Ann Harter, Director***

The Department of Finance consists of the Administration and Accounting, the Assessor's office and Revenue Collector's offices. The Administration and Accounting office has the responsibility of administering the Town's finances and accounting for all Town funds. The office provides complete accounting services for all the boards, commissions and departments of the town except the Board of Education. Detailed statements of this accounting appear in the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, excerpts of which are included in this report. In addition, the office helps develop and administers the Town budget, handles the daily Treasury operations and manages cash and debt obligations.

### **Mission Statement**

*To provide accurate, timely financial reporting, information and services to Town departments, the public and policy leaders. We strive to stay current on accounting standards and financial practices and procedures in order to provide cost effective services and financial information to all users of Town financial information.*

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

#### **Accounting and Administration**

- For the twenty-second consecutive year, the Town was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal year 2010-2011. The Town received this national recognition for its financial report by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States & Canada.
- Newington's outstanding bonded debt at 6/30/12 was \$11,690,000 a decrease of \$1.825 million from the prior year. The Town benefits from a high credit rating of AA by Standard & Poor's and Aa2 by Moody's Investor Services.
- Ann Harter, Director of Finance was nominated as President of the CT Government Finance Officers Association.
- In accordance with Section 8-36 of the Town's Code of Ordinances, a request for proposal (RFP) for the Town's Employee Insurance & Benefits Agent of Record was issued. The Employee Insurance & Pension Benefit (EIPB) Committee recommended Lockton Benefits Group.
- The implementation of the GoDocs feature on the MUNIS financial software system was completed. The department can make paperless accounts payable payments issuing an electronic fund transfer with an e-mail notification to the vendor.

- The Town of Newington submitted two applications to the State of CT Dept. of Emergency Management & Homeland Security for reimbursement from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for two different storm related disasters. The 1<sup>st</sup> was for Hurricane Irene with an estimated cost of \$160,000. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was for the estimated costs in the amount of \$2,091,813 associated with the Snowstorm Disaster of October 29<sup>th</sup>. This grant covered the Special Fund Balance Appropriation of \$1.7 million.
- The Town's Summary Plan Documents (SPDs) for the three defined benefit pension plans were updated and new booklets provided each active member with a user friendly, summarized description of the pension's plan provisions

## **Assessor**

***-S. Steven Juda***

The mission of the Newington Assessor's office is to fulfill in a timely manner the requirements of Connecticut state law relative to the assessment of real property, personal property, and motor vehicles, in a way that provides residents, administrators, and professionals with accurate, and timely information, ensuring that all taxpayers are treated in the most equitable manner possible, within a caring and responsive environment.

Real Property is assessed at 70% of a base year of value established on the October 1, 2005 revaluation. Commercial Personal Property and Motor Vehicles are assessed at 70% annually. The Grand List consists of over 12,000 real estate parcels, 1,400 commercial personal property accounts and over 30,000 taxable motor vehicles. The office is also responsible for assisting special service programs by annually updating over 550 elderly, 50 blind, 6,100 special assessment adjustments for veterans, and 250 disabled exemptions for Newington taxpayers.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Provided professional service to general public and taxpayers.
- Completed the 2011 revaluation of all real estate parcels as required by Connecticut state law. Cole Layer Tumble provided professional assistance with this revaluation utilizing newly acquired Vision Appraisal software. This new software provided data to residents via the internet.
- Continued to maintain and administer the computer interface with the Geographic Information System (GIS) and the Town of Newington website.
- Enhanced internet web site with numerous links to real estate, sales, & professional data.

# Finance Department

The completed October 1, 2011 Grand List of net taxable property, subject to hearings of the Newington Board of Assessment Appeals was as follows:-

2011 NET GRAND LIST				
CATEGORY	2010	2011	PERCENT CHANGE	DOLLAR CHANGE
REAL ESTATE	\$2,346,306,368	\$2,213,614,991	-5.7%	-\$132,691,377
PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$129,933,910	\$134,169,320	3.3%	\$4,235,410
MOTOR VEHICLE	<u>\$202,997,933</u>	<u>\$216,492,043</u>	6.6%	<u>\$13,494,110</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,679,238,211</b>	<b>\$2,564,276,354</b>	<b>-4.3%</b>	<b>-\$114,961,857</b>

MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT EXEMPTION				
CATEGORY	2010	2011	PERCENT CHANGE	DOLLAR CHANGE
GROSS PP	\$184,215,330	\$186,917,060	1.5%	\$2,701,730
MFG & OTHER	<u>\$54,281,420</u>	<u>\$52,747,740</u>	-2.8%	<u>-\$1,533,680</u>
<b>NET PP</b>	<b>\$129,933,910</b>	<b>\$134,169,320</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>\$4,235,410</b>

The 2011 grand list **decreased by \$114,961,857** from \$2,679,238,211 to \$2,564,276,354. The 2011 grand list is subject to further adjustments by the Board of Assessment Appeals. The 2011 grand list would produce approximately **\$3,451,000** less in revenue at the current mill rate of 30.02. The decrease in total assessed values could likely produce a higher mill rate to provide the same tax revenue.

This is not unique to Newington as many Connecticut municipalities that completed a revaluation for 2011 are seeing similar percentage decreases in the real estate sector of the grand list.

## Total Grand List

The 2011 net grand list shows a net decrease of \$114,961,857, or -4.3%, below the 2010 net grand list. This grand list is subject to further reductions by the Board of Assessment Appeals at their March meetings.

## Real Estate

The net real estate grand list decreased from \$2,346,306,368 to \$2,213,614,991, a decrease of -\$132,691,377 or -5.7%. The decrease is due to a decline in market values for real estate parcels. **The Town of Newington implemented a state mandated revaluation of all real estate parcels** with assistance from Cole Laver Trumble a Division of Tyler Technologies. The completed 2011 revaluation revealed that property values declined on average by about 6%. The last revaluation was done on the October 1, 2005 grand list. At that time real estate parcels experienced appreciation in market value that ranged from 12% to 15% per year from the 2000 revaluation.

## Department Goals FY 2012-2013

- Provide taxpayers with courteous, professional, and responsive service in a timely manner.
- Maintain an equalized tax base according to State Statutes and professional appraisal/assessment standards.
- Continue to assure that assessments utilizing the 2011 revaluation of all real estate parcels are equitable and that the process is completed on time.
- Continue with appeals from commercial property owners to the Connecticut court system as a result of value changes that occurred with the October 1, 2011 revaluation.

If this were not a revaluation year the grand list would have shown a significant increase over 2010. Typically revaluations experience increases in values and the mill rate is reduced. The 2011 revaluation has proven to be quite different from past ones done by the Town of Newington.

# Finance Department

## Revenue Collector

-Corinne Aldinger, CCMC

The Tax Office is responsible for the administration of all billing & collection activity for all real estate, motor vehicle & personal property taxes. It is the largest source of the Town's operating revenue, & necessitates the billing & collection of taxes. These taxes are essential to provide the services for the Town's residents, Town departments, youth & elderly programs, & to provide the funds for the Board of Education to operate at peak levels to highly educate the children in our community.

The primary objectives of the Revenue Collector are to secure the maximum collection of revenues due the town, maintain accurate collection records, ensure proper controls & safeguard the revenue collected. When these objectives are accomplished in an efficient manner they reflect the financial well being of the Town, which is the backbone of the municipality in regard to fiscal debt and bonding ability. Management.

The office of the Revenue Collector also serves as a center for property tax information. The staff assists attorneys, title searchers, real estate agents, residents & others regarding payment history & other information available from the tax records.

### Tax Collection Activity FY 2011-2012

Taxes on Current Levy	\$78,913,677.60
Taxes on Motor Vehicle Supplemental List	668,405.37
Taxes on Prior Years List	767,579.83
Interest, Liens and Other Fees	383,972.40
Taxes on Advanced Collection 2011 Grand List	6,349,116.77
Taxes and Fees Collected	\$87,082,751.97
Collection Rate on Current Levy	98.9%

### TOWN OF NEWINGTON, CT

#### TOP TWENTY FIVE TAXPAYERS - 2011 GRAND LIST

RANK	TAXPAYER	DESCRIPTION	GROSS
1	CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO	UTILITY	\$36,741,100
2	NEWINGTON VF LLC	WALMART	\$19,941,215
3	TLG NEWINGTON LLC	STOP & SHOP & BOBS	\$18,957,169
4	CENTRO GA TURNPIKE PLAZA LLC	PRICE CHOPPER & DICKS	\$18,868,220
5	NEWINGTON GROSS LLC	STEW LEONARDS	\$18,806,249
6	NEWINGTON-BERLIN RETAIL LLC	LA FITNESS/SAMS	\$16,315,933
7	BALF	MANUFACTURING	\$13,158,290
8	HAYES KAUFMAN NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES LLC	STOP & SHOP CVS	\$12,949,237
9	MANDELL PROPERTIES LLC	PRINTING	\$12,707,267
10	TARGET CORPORATION T 1802	TARGET	\$12,075,040
11	VOLVO AERO CONNECTICUT LLC	MANUFACTURING	\$12,012,070
12	LOWES HOME CENTERS INC #623	LOWES	\$11,386,060
13	FURNITURE EXECUTIVES NO 4 L P	RAYMOUR & FLANIGAN	\$10,901,331
14	RENO PROPERTIES ETC	MANUFACTURING	\$10,456,538
15	EDAC TECHNOLOGIES CORP	MANUFACTURING	\$10,288,229
16	HARTFORD HOSPITAL	APTS & LABORATORY	\$9,273,973
17	NEWINGTON 2007 LLC	MANUFACTURING	\$8,226,321
18	COMPUTER SCIENCE CORP	COMPUTER LEASING	\$7,497,440
19	APPLE SIX HOSPITALITY OWNERSHIP INC	COURTYARD MARRIOTT	\$7,385,893
20	UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORP.	MANUFACTURING	\$7,383,580
21	COHEN BOBS DISCOUNT	APARTMENTS/RETAIL	\$7,182,340
22	KOHLER	MANUFACTURING	\$7,177,690
23	BERLIN NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES LLC	MODELL & TGIF	\$6,694,541
24	GRISWOLD HILLS OF NEWINGTON LTD PARTNE	APARTMENTS	\$6,668,424
25	SPX CORP.	MANUFACTURING	\$6,477,310
			<b>\$309,531,460</b>
PERCENT OF GRAND LIST			12.1%
Total Taxes Paid by Top 25 Owners			<b>\$9,292,134</b>

# Newington Community Services

# Human Services

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**Ken Freidenberg, Director (Retired January 2012)**  
**Karen Futoma, Director**

The Human Services Department offers a variety of human service programs and services affecting children, youth, adults, elderly and their families. Service areas include information and referral, community education and coordination, prevention and positive youth and family development, social work and case management, clinical therapy, crisis response, and economic assistance.

## **Mission**

*We serve residents of all ages to achieve their maximum quality of life by increasing their knowledge, skill and self-sufficiency through a comprehensive coordinated continuum of social work and community services.*

## **Our Motto:**

"A Helping Hand For All Ages."

## **2011-12 Highlights:**

- After 35 years of dedicated service to the department, the town and the Newington community, Ken Freidenberg, former Director, retired in January, 2012.
- As a result of Ken's retirement, the department experienced several transitions, with Karen Futoma (former Human Services Coordinator) being promoted to Director, Carol LaBrecque (former Social Worker II) being promoted to Human Services Coordinator, the resignation of Christina Salvio (former Clinical Coordinator) in June and the hire of Pamela Wassik, as Social Worker II in April.
- Storm Alfred caused severe and prolonged outages in Newington, Oct/Nov 2011, resulting in the opening of an overnight shelter at NHS from Oct 30 through Nov 5. Over 3,000 meals were served, almost 2,000 residents used the shelter during the day for warmth, showers, and recharging cell phones, laptops, etc. Several residents stayed overnight, peaking at 83 guests one night.
- Prevention and positive youth development programs are offered through a variety of activities teaching skills in decision-making, problem-solving, communication, team cooperation leadership and community service:
- A.B.C. is a school year **Adventure Based Challenge** program for Newington's 8<sup>th</sup> grade students designed to facilitate their journey into high school. 32 students participated. We provided challenging activities and discussions that encouraged the value of personal growth through healthy choices and peer interactions. Students planned and implemented the activities including a community service project as a part of their year together.
- Rite of Passage Experience (ROPE) is a 3-phase community approach to prevention. 367 6th-grade students participated in the first phase of ROPE as part of the school health and wellness curriculum.
- The second phase of ROPE promotes positive leisure time through after-school and summer programs; 438 program participation slots were filled for SCORE serving approximately 65 youth.
- The Summer Youth Adventure (SYA) Program offers cultural, educational and adventure activities serving 394 program participation slots were filled with 93 youth entering fifth through ninth grade.
- The third phase of ROPE continues to encourage youth to give back to the community through volunteer service. Youth and adults are also offered community service placements as required by the justice system. 76 youth and adults provided community service hours this year.
- The Outdoor Challenge Ropes Course offered initiatives to 961 participants in 21 local and 18 outside groups comprised of school age youth, college students, business, church, other youth service bureaus and non-profits, a 30% increase over the prior year. Several Eagle scouts earned awards for projects enhancing the challenge course.
- The high school self-awareness group is a collaboration with the high school psychologist & special education services to provide social skill enhancement programs through experiential education opportunities such as hiking, canoeing, geo-caching, challenge course & in-class sessions involving team building exercises. 25 youths participated.
- Human Services facilitated the high school "Truth About Hate" program co-sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and Human Services.
- A tri-town youth substance abuse prevention program was offered through a grant in collaboration with Rocky Hill and Wethersfield youth services. 15 out of 37 youth were Newington residents.
- Three ongoing programs continued at MKMS. The alternate Washington D.C. trip option was offered to 45 8<sup>th</sup> grade students over a 4 day period in May. A Community Building Day was held in June for 400 students. 120 students participated a 5<sup>th</sup> grade program to enhance the importance of respect, communication and community.
- The Juvenile Review Board is an alternative means of identifying and assisting youth 17 and younger whose behaviors put them at risk. The Board is composed of representatives from Police, Schools, Human Services, Juvenile Court, State Department of Children and Families and Interfaith Clergy Association. 25 youth and their parents appeared before the Board for incidents such as vandalism, shoplifting, fighting, criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, bullying, truancy, defiance of school rules and domestic conflict.

# Newington Community Services

## Human Services

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### 2011-12 Highlights Continued:

- The Food Bank, Holiday Food and Gift programs, Energy Assistance, Clothing Closet and Special Needs Fund assist eligible residents with basic need assistance. Newington households in need continue to feel the impact of the difficult economy as a result of unemployment, underemployment, fixed income, healthcare costs and ever-increasing expenses. The Food Bank averaged 150 households monthly, the Open Air Market (Foodshare collaborates with us) provides a free farmers market every other week to approximately 80 unduplicated households and the annual holiday programs served 395 households representing 827 children, adults and elderly. 150 households were assisted through generous community contributions to the Special Needs Fund for emergency bills such as medical, medication, energy and housing. Staff also administered the Operation Fuel Program which saw a rise in applicants due to cuts in CEAP (CT Energy Assistance Program). 35 applications totaling \$15,000 in heating assistance was awarded.
  - ♦ New This Year: A computer program (fully funded through a Foodshare client sufficiency grant) provided two computers for foodbank recipients to use or learn on with volunteer coaches during foodbank hours.
  - ♦ New This Year: Two commercial freezers were purchased and partially funded through a foodshare equipment grant, enhancing our storage capacity.
- Over 200 dedicated volunteers continue to make a difference to residents in need.
  - ♦ Volunteers help organize, sort, stock, shop for food, pick up donations and assist resident shoppers using the food bank. They also volunteer to coach computer use and prepare and distribute for the holidays, along with general department support.
  - ♦ Interfaith Community Action Newington (ICAN) brings together lay representatives from seven houses of worship. Volunteer coordinators rotate handling calls and this past year connected 48 residents with volunteers who helped with yard work, minor household chores and repairs, friendly visiting, shopping and driving to medical appointments.
- Social Casework was provided to an average monthly caseload of 103 and Youth and Family Counseling handled an average of 46. These programs offer traditional social work and clinical therapy services to all age populations. Social Workers see families at Town Hall and make home visits as needed. Issues brought to the department by residents included health, mental health, financial assistance, child and adolescent development, marriage and family conflict, child and elderly abuse or neglect, domestic violence, housing, transportation, substance abuse and crisis intervention.
- Boards, Commissions, Committees, ADA, EAP are coordinated by the Director of Human Services providing staff support for the Youth-Adult Council, Fair Rent and Human Rights Commissions. A monthly report to the Commission on Aging and The Disabled is also provided. The Director also acts as the Town's Coordinator for the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Affirmative Action and Employee Assistance Program (EAP).



Human Services Department Staff  
Ken Freidenberg's Retirement Party, January, 2012



Newington Community Services  
Human Services

## 2012-2013 Goals

- Fill vacancies, train and integrate new staff, review and evaluate programs and services. Continue year of transition related to prior Director's retirement.
- Continue to maintain quality casework services to meet the needs of all Newington residents. Maintain private funding and social work support for emergency basic need assistance in response to increased need and federal/state cut backs in safety net services.
- Continue to provide quality youth programs and counseling services, while exploring new programs and services based on identified needs.
- Continue to enhance staff skills and knowledge through attendance in training and workshops that will keep us current in ever-changing needs and trends.
- Enhance our emergency response capacity through increased community collaboration & the formation of Citizen Emergency Response Team/s (CERT).

## Youth-Adult Council

The Youth-Adult Council (YAC) acts as an advisory to the Human Services Department. The members are appointed by the Mayor and represent parents, youth, police, schools, Library, business and liaisons from the Town Council, Board of Education and Parks and Recreation. Their purpose is to review youth and family issues and foster community education and support among agencies and residents.

Unduplicated Cumulative Cases/Participants		
	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2010-11</u>
Youth & Family Counseling	126	187
Social Casework	483	496
Special Needs	150	202
Food Bank	1,861	1,657
Holiday Food, Toys, Gifts	847	*826
*992 formerly reported was corrected		
Positive Youth Development (including 280 college students)	3,763	3,205
Juvenile Review Board	25	37
Community Education Information and Referral	5,026	6,114
*Some of the lower figures can be related to several long term staff vacancies this year.		

- Each year YAC sponsors the Super Hoop-La Basketball Game involving students from every school. They compete in a friendly tournament to raise funds for three scholarships awarded to graduating high school students. Over 582 children and families attended this event, almost doubling the prior year attendees and increasing funds raised.
- Through an annual grant from the Capital Area Substance Council, substance abuse prevention/education programs were offered to middle & high school age youth. The grant also supported the High School Graduation Celebration.

## Human Rights Commission

The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to promote understanding and respect among all racial, religious, ethnic and other groups, and to secure equality of, and opportunity for all people. Commission members are appointed by the Town Council & conform to State & Federal laws regarding discrimination.

- On September 24, 2011, Commission members and volunteers provided an educational booth promoting diversity awareness at the Waterfall Festival for children.
- The Commission provided funding support for the “Truth About Hate” program held at NHS.
- The Human Rights Commission spent considerable time reviewing it’s goals and objectives and how best to meet them going forward.

## Committee on Community Safety

The Committee on Community Safety advises the Town Council regarding the needs and potential solutions for ensuring the safety of the community. The Committee is comprised of seven citizens with three Town Council Liaisons, two Board of Education Liaisons and one Liaison from the Youth-Adult Council. This committee was inactive this fiscal year.



*John Salomone's congratulations and best wishes to  
Ken Freidenberg, January, 2012*



# Lucy Robbins Welles Library

## ***Donna Miller, Director***

Newington's Library is a vibrant community center providing information, lifelong learning and cultural enrichment to patrons, both in-house and virtually through the Library's website, Facebook, Twitter and e-mail notifications. Library staff takes pride in providing professional, friendly and excellent customer service. This past year close to a quarter of a million people visited the Library and checked out 404,496 items, while 90,901 people visited the Library's website.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- People are using the Library differently than in the past. Patrons are still reading and asking reference questions, but they are using online resources more, particularly for job searching. Circulation of ereaders and downloadable ebooks and circulation of DVDs has increased. Meeting room use by community groups is up 21%. The Library is offering more public programming for all ages, with attendance up by 30%. The Friends stepped up their program support and volunteers contributed 1,559 hours of time this year. A Liberty Bank grant for \$2,000, was used to provide more job programs for the unemployed and children's literacy programs.
- Public computer usage increased 12.5% as well as free wireless Internet access usage. The number of online databases used, such as Consumer Reports, increased over 68%.
- The Friends of the Library's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee received a Special Achievement Award at the Friends of CT. Libraries Annual Awards meeting held at Hamden Library, for fundraising efforts and special events celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization. The Friends operated booths at the Extravaganza, the Waterfall Festival and the Business Showcase; the Fall and Spring book sales; a Wine & Cheese Social; an Open House & Ice Cream Social; a Memorial Day Parade float; and their annual meeting. They sponsored bus trips to Newport, N.Y. City & Boston, and many Library programs.
- National Library Week, Apr. 8-15, was celebrated with banners, balloons, displays & programs for all ages, all week long. The grand finale was a concert with "Eight to the Bar." Admission was free, thanks to a bequest by the late George Hanel, to sponsor a cultural event each year. On February 4th, libraries across the state celebrated "Take Your Child to the Library Day" with special children's activities.
- Job seeking programs were offered on writing resumes and cover letters, interviewing, LinkedIn, social networking, and Internet job searching, with over 300 people attending. Over 600 people attended the 50 computer classes offered, many with wait lists.
- Ruth Block, Circulation Supervisor, retired after 30 years of service.
- The Library ended its copier leasing contract and purchased new copiers and public printers, plus a CASSIE computer reservation and print system with a wireless printing component.
- The Library received a \$30,000 Technology grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, which was used to purchase laptops and a cart, a podium, wireless access points, a big screen TV, a digital sign and other equipment. It also provided funds to hire instructors to teach computer classes.
- Over 300 people attended technology programs on ereaders, downloading ebooks from Overdrive, iPods, and MP3 players. More ereaders were purchased and preloaded with ebooks so patrons could try the different models, now totaling 9 ereaders that can be checked out.
- The Adult Summer Reading program "Novel Destinations," had 652 adults who participated, an 8% increase from last year. 5,243 books were read throughout the summer, an 8% increase from the previous year. The Adult Winter Reading program had 402 participants, a 31 % increase from the previous year and 2,740 books were read, a 15% increase from the previous year. A busy programming year attracted 4,787 adults and included a movie series; garden programs; music concerts; Civil War programs; health programs, book discussions and more.
- The Children's Summer Reading Program kicked off in June in conjunction with the Parks & Recreation Dept.'s Touch-A-Truck event. 1,166 children participated by reading & being entertained by activities such as music & theater programs, a splash party, Buddy Bakeoff, and a skating party. The Annual Sliva Memorial Young People's Literary Series event welcomed author Kate Klise, who spoke to elementary school children in town.



# Lucy Robbins Welles Library

## Highlights Continued

- 208 children participated in the Winter Reading program. A wide selection of weekly programs and outreach services to schools and daycare centers was carried out by staff, including storytimes; Construction Club; Cookbook Club; Read, Rattle & Roll; Play for all; the Wonders of Science; and many more. New programs introduced were Just a Story & a Song; and a playgroup for special needs preschoolers.
- 1,829 teens attended programs offered throughout the year, an 80% increase over last year's attendance. Teen Summer Reading had 154 teens reading 920 books. Popular programs included: a talent show; *Indian Culture & Cuisine*; *Anime Club*; the Summer Reading Finale; *Teen Volunteer Network*; *After Hours Gaming*; *Teen Chocolate Fest*; *Korean Culture and Spirit*.
- The Library Board's 5K Road Race fundraiser on May 20th attracted an all time high of 386 people, a 25% increase from the previous year.
- Lorraine & Bill Meade were inducted into the Legacy Society at the Board's Annual Meeting. Their two daughters made a generous donation in their memory. The Catherine & Joseph Palermino Scholarship was awarded to three staff members for professional development.
- On Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> the Library experienced shaking from an earthquake originating in Virginia that was felt all along the East coast. The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Children's Room had to be evacuated because of swaying walls and glass and ceiling tiles and floors shook on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Weather events such as tropical storm Irene on Aug. 27 & 28 caused serious sky-light leaks and storm Alfred on Oct. 29 left the Library out of power for three days. Some staff was able to work at the town emergency shelter, even doing story times for children.
- New shutters, outside lighting, gardens a bike rack & fence were installed. The circulation desk area was reconfigured to update a work area built in 1987. A room that was closed off during the 1987 expansion was reopened for storage. The children's program room received new paint, window valences & a colorful rug. A new technology closet was built in the community room to house laptops & presentation carts. A CIP request for skylight repairs was approved by Town Council, with repair to be scheduled in the future.

## 2012-2013 Goals

- Submit an RFP for a long range planning consultant and begin the process of updating the long range strategic plan
- Completion of the CIP skylight repair project.
- Hold a staff team building workshop.

## Statistical Summary

### Circulation

Adult
Children
Young Adult
DVD's
Downloadable Books
E-Readers
Museum Passes
Total Circulation
Cumulative Circulation YTD
Days Open/Month
Average Daily Circulation
Patron Count <sup>^</sup>
Avg. Patron Count/Day
Self Checkout Circulation
Total # Cardholders
Sunday Circulation
Sunday Patron Count

### Public Services

Total Reference Questions
Total Computer Use*
Total Database Searches
Website Visits**
InterLibrary Loan-Loans
InterLibrary Loan-Borrows
Programs Childrens
Programs Childrens Attendance
Programs Teen
Programs Teen Attendance
Programs Adult
Programs Adult Attendance
Notary Transactions
Volunteer Hours
Mtg. Room Usage-Outside Groups
Mtg. Room Usage-Lib. Programs
Study Room Usage
Total Library Holdings

2012	2011	Gain/Loss	% Change
261,716	263,237	-1,521	-0.58%
128,428	131,208	-2,780	-2.12%
14,352	15,391	-1,039	-6.75%
97,836	95,747	2,088	2.18%
4,346	2,279	2,067	90.70%
158	60	98	163.33%
964	962	2	0.21%
<b>404,496</b>	<b>409,836</b>	<b>-5,340</b>	<b>-1.30%</b>
<b>404,496</b>	<b>409,836</b>	<b>-5,340</b>	<b>-1.30%</b>
321	320	1	0.31%
1,260	1,281	-21	-1.61%
241,079	250,722	-9,643	-3.85%
751	784	-32	-4.15%
10,448	11,146	-698	-6.26%
12,408	12,581	-173	-1.38%
15,108	16,967	-1,859	-10.96%
7,991	8,341	-350	-4.20%
67,591	67,248	343	0.51%
38,823	34,485	4,338	12.58%
230,373	137,377	92,996	67.69%
90,901	116,422	-25,521	-21.92%
10,958	9,103	1,855	20.38%
7,924	6,315	1,609	25.48%
774	634	140	22.08%
25,243	21,267	3,976	18.70%
63	48	15	31.25%
1,829	1,016	813	80.02%
139	126	13	10.32%
4,787	4,052	735	18.14%
141	127	14	11.02%
1,559	1,262	297	23.53%
184	152	32	21.05%
629	600	29	4.83%
2,532	2,539	-7	-0.28%
165,379	161,473	3,906	2.42%

\*More detailed stats available from CASSIE beginning 4/12

<sup>^</sup>Estimate because counter malfunctioned for month of July

# Senior and Disabled Center

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## ***Dianne Stone, Director***

Open to all persons aged 55 and older and younger adults with disabilities; the Center's program areas include information and referral, health prevention and promotion services, fitness and wellness, leisure and recreation, social activities and special events, life long learning, supportive services including case management, transportation and nutrition. It was the first Center in the State of Connecticut to be nationally accredited and is the designated Community Focal Point for aging services.

## **Mission**

*To support older adults and people with disabilities in the Town of Newington in maintaining and enriching their independence, well-being and quality of life. This is accomplished by:*

- *promoting full inclusion in the community;*
- *facilitating access to a comprehensive choice of services and activities;*
- *ensuring that services and activities respond to the diverse needs and interests of the served population, and;*
- *providing ongoing opportunities for life-long learning and growth.*

## **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Held more than 30 different health promotion and disease prevention programs throughout the year. Most of these are presented free of charge by subject matter experts. In collaboration with the Central Connecticut Health District and through an Older American's Act grant from the North Central Agency on Aging, dental cleanings and screenings were made available at the Center. Also, through a partnership with the Injury Prevention Institute of Hartford Healthcare and the CCHD and with funding from the Jefferson House Institute, a funding arm of Jefferson House, Mature Driver Safety Screenings and A Matter of Balance (evidence based fall prevention) were offered at the Center. The Center's Wellness Clinic continues to be in high demand as do the Footcare Services and weekly blood pressure screenings provided by the Newington Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Another welcome addition this year was a regular low cost massage therapy program.
- Most of the events this year were eclipsed by the October snow storm. In the aftermath, Center staff in cooperation with the Human Services Department began efforts to improve emergency planning for residents with functional and access needs and to strengthen community mobilization year round through the work began by the ICAN group.
- The Senior and Disabled Center faced several facility concerns this year including a deterioration of the HVAC piping system and a porous roof. Both were believed to contribute to repeated faults in the fire alarm system that resulted in numerous false alarms. The piping was replaced and, ultimately, the fire alarm system was also replaced. The roof remains a concern. The piping was replaced and, ultimately, the fire alarm system was also replaced. The roof remains a concern.

- Received assistance through sponsorship, in kind donation of goods or services or direct assistance from more than 15 different businesses and agencies including several long term care facilities, health care agencies and town businesses.
- The Center helped more than a thousand residents with supportive programs including Energy Assistance, Renter's Rebate, Medicare Part D, Conn-Pace, Meals on Wheels, Tax preparation, the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) which both obviates the need for ConnPACE for most people & pays their Medicare Part B premium & case management. The extension to full time for Eligibility Coordinator Karen Halpert, made it possible to serve more people, especially in light of federal cutbacks in the LI-HEAP program that eliminated CRT's on-site hours. The Information & Referral Center continues to evolve as the hub of these services.
- Held several annual events including a Senior Prom presented by students from the Hartford Magnet Middle School, the annual Police Safety Picnic, Newington Health Care Center Ice Cream Social, a general membership meeting & the Volunteer Recognition dinner. The largest event of the year, the Annual Expo, was scheduled for Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and fell victim to the snow storm.
- Dial-A-Ride provided more than 15,000 trips covering approximately 45,000 miles. The Out of Town Medical Transportation program, provided through a collaborative partnership with Wethersfield and Rocky Hill and funded by the DOT Matching Grant for Demand Responsive Transportation, continues to be fully utilized.
- There were about 150 participation opportunities offered by the Center in the year including 13 that are daily, 35 that are once or twice a week & a 100 that are once a month or one time only. The total recorded attendance for the year was more than 39,000 by more than 1,100 people. Actual attendance is higher as many participants still do not sign in & there have been periodic problems with the scanning system.
- The Senior and Disabled Center has an annual membership and that peaked at just over 2,000 by the end of the year. Membership is not required for residents to use Dial-A-Ride, social and support services or to attend the congregate meal and more than 600 residents are registered for those services alone.

## **2012-2013 Goals**

- Continue to assess and respond to the changing needs of older adults and people with disabilities in the community.
- Continue efforts to strengthen community engagement to support aging in place and emergency planning.
- Roof replacement including the construction of a roof extension over the doorway.
- Build on the professional services of the Center.
- Develop programs and services that maximize independence and promote a high quality of life.

# Parks & Recreation

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## ***Bruce Till, Superintendent***

The Parks and Recreation Department is comprised of two divisions—Recreation and Parks & Grounds—and provides comprehensive recreation services and facilities for Newington residents.

### **Recreation Division**

The Town of Newington has established a firm commitment to recreational resources and opportunities for its residents. The Town operates outdoor swimming pools in Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park. Indoor swimming is available at Newington High School. Tennis enthusiasts can find courts at Churchill Park and Newington High School, along with soft surface courts located at Mill Pond Park. Golfers can enjoy the beauty of the landscape at the Town-owned but privately operated 18-hole Indian Hill Country Club. Several trails and a skate park are also available.

The Parks & Recreation Department offers a wide variety of recreational programs, special events, sports leagues, bus trips, facility rentals (Churchill Park pavilions and Mortensen Community Center) and leisure opportunities for all ages, including the Teen Center, which is open for students in grades 7 to 12. Programs include Summer Playgrounds (Preschool age through Grade 7), Counselor-In-Training Program (Grades 9 & 10), Year-round Aquatics (Preschool through Adult), Community Gardens, Adult Sports Leagues (Men's and Women's Softball, Women's Volleyball, Men's Basketball), Youth Basketball (Grades 1-12) and a host of other programs and special events, including fitness and cultural programs for youth and adults of all ages. Although operated independently, youth sports organizations including T-Ball, Little League, Softball, Senior League, Challenger Baseball, Soccer, Swim Club, Lacrosse, Boys and Girls Travel Basketball, Midget Football, Cheerleading and Youth Wrestling fall under the umbrella of the Parks & Recreation Department. The Department works closely with various citizen committees, civic groups and the Board of Education. The Department's Creative Playtime Preschool program is fully licensed through the State of Connecticut and open to children ages 3 to 5.

The Department also sponsors the annual Extravaganza celebration in July at Mill Pond Park, highlighted by an evening fireworks display.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- A total of over 200 programs with 665 classes/sessions were offered throughout the year, and more than 7000 participants registered for these programs. In addition, 21 bus trips were offered.
- New programs included Cardio Tennis, Zumba Toning, Power Cardio, Jr. Lifeguard (grades 8-10), Field Hockey Camp, Skyhawks Multi-Sport Camp, Learn-to-Play Hockey, Mini Learn-to-Skate, Kayak Lessons, Kids Art Games and Adult Coed Kickball.
- Free opportunities for recreation and leisure were offered, including Fun Runs, Concerts at Mill Pond Park, Pictures with Santa/Sleigh Rides, free demonstration classes including T'ai Chi, Music Together and Zumba, as well as free special events such as Touch-A-Truck, Family Fishing Derby & Family Fishing Lessons, Night of Lights and more.
- The annual Mill Pond Park Extravaganza included a carnival, Family Pool Party, Family Field Day and a concert in the park, in addition to the traditional crafts, entertainment and fireworks.
- Creative Playtime Preschool Program remained a popular choice for parents of 3-5 year old children.
- The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Benefit Golf Tournament held at Indian Hill Country Club was a success, with 105 golfers participating. Proceeds from the tournament were used for community programs such as Camp Sunrise, a camp for children with disabilities.
- A consignment ticket program for Six Flags and Lake Compounce was offered, giving residents the opportunity to purchase discount tickets at the Parks and Recreation office, which could be used for any day of the Six Flags or Lake Compounce operating season.





# Parks & Recreation

## Parks & Grounds Division





















































- Mark Ripley, Supervisor


The Parks & Grounds Division is responsible for the year round maintenance of 833 acres of parks and public green spaces, including two community parks, nine neighborhood parks, two historic properties (Kellogg-Eddy House and the Kelsey House), the Young Farm, and all public school grounds. It also maintains the Town greens, three cemeteries, the Municipal Parking Lot, the Town Center, and the grounds of all Newington public buildings. The Division is also responsible for the initial startup of the community garden plots, the picnic and recreation facilities at Churchill Park, a skate park, two outdoor swimming pools, playgrounds, several miles of hiking/biking trails, numerous public rights-of-way and cul-de-sacs, roadside mowing and flower beds and pots. Maintenance activities include mowing, pruning, trash removal, and athletic field preparation for scholastic and recreational use, snow removal for schools and public building parking areas, sidewalks, and school walk routes through Town spaces.

### 2011-2012 Highlights

- The West Meadow Cemetery Chapel was opened and set up for the Wreaths across America Ceremony on December 10<sup>th</sup>. This ceremony is conducted by local veterans in conjunction with the nationwide Wreaths across America effort.

- Crew members repaired the goal mouths at Newington High Schools' soccer fields. This included the cutting out and reseeding of the affected areas.
- Continued to address tree concerns to ensure safety.
- Continued the joint agreement with the Town of Wethersfield for tree service.
- On October 29, 2011, Winter Storm Alfred hit causing extensive tree damage, which the Department worked on well into 2012.
- Repaired vandalized poured-in-place ground cover at Mill Pond Park playscape.
- Installed playground equipment at Clem Lemire Park, Eagle Park, Mill Pond Park and Starr Park. This included new and updated equipment.
- In an effort to control the algae population in the ponds at Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park, an outside contractor was brought in to apply herbicide biannually.
- Began tennis court repair at Churchill Park.
- Constructed multi-purpose synthetic athletic field at Clem Lemire Park.
- Replaced bridge and stairs at Mill Pond Park.

Parks in Newington	Baseball	Softball	Play-ground	Multise Fields*	Tennis	Pool	Volleyball	Bocce	Basket-ball	Trails	Skating Ice	Picnic Shelter	Water Features	Skate Park
Badger Field - <i>Walsh Ave.</i>														
Beacon Park - <i>Beacon St.</i>														
Beechwood Park - <i>Woodbridge Rd.</i>														
Candlewick Park - <i>Lamp Lighter La.</i>														
Churchill Park - <i>Main St.</i>														
Clem Lemire - <i>New Britain Ave.</i>														
Eagle Lantern Park - <i>Eagle Dr.</i>														
Little Brook Park - <i>Little Brook Dr.</i>														
Mill Brook Farms Park - <i>Main St.</i>														
Mill Pond Park - <i>Garfield St.</i>														
Seymour Park - <i>Seventh St.</i>														
Starr Park - <i>Brook St.</i>														
Mary Wells Park - <i>Cedar St.</i>														

 Denotes facilities available in that park.

# Newington Planning & Development

## Building Department

### ***Douglas Jourdan, Building Official***

The Building Department has a number of responsibilities to insure the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Newington. The Department does this by enforcing state building codes and inspections of all commercial/industrial buildings, rental properties and all places of assembly and individual residences. Building codes are laws or ordinances adopted at the local or state level that set minimum safety standards for the construction of residential and commercial buildings. The building codes regulate structural and fire safety, electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems, zoning and energy conservation. The Building Department works very closely with homeowners and contractors in processing and issuance of permits. The Department also works with the Fire Marshal, Town Engineer, Health Director, Police, Social Services and The Health Department.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- 1883 inspections were conducted
- Certificates of Occupancy were issued: Eight Certificates of Occupancy were Commercial and seven were for Single Family Residences.
- Commercial Certificates of Occupancy included:
  - Plaza Azteca Restaurant, 3260 Berlin Turnpike
  - Liberty Bank, 1300 Main Street
  - Rock Paper Scissors Hair Salon, 2435 Berlin Turnpike
  - Holiday Inn Express, 2553 Berlin Turnpike
- Building Department income totaled \$296,505.55:
  - \$32,820.05 in various application fees, etc.
  - \$263,685.50 in permit fees

<b>Other Income Received</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Town Plan and Zoning Applications Fees	\$8,820.00
Zoning Board of Appeals Applications Fees	225.00
Conservation Commission Applications Fees	11,320.00
Environmental Fees	2,700.00
Work in Right of Way	7,450.00
Copies, Books and Maps	1,054.50
Engr.	1,250.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,820.05</b>

### **Permits Issued 2011-2012**

<b>Type of Permit</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Value of Permits</b>
Single Family Homes	3	\$527,440.00
Tent	6	14,671.00
Electrical	379	2,356,679.00
Decks	52	324,591.50
Garages/Sheds	44	170,739.00
Comm./Multi Family	11	7,602,723.00
Additions and Alterations	264	5,433,785.00
Plumbing	247	460,166.70
Mechanical	279	2,666,739.00
Signs	68	135,098.00
Pools	32	174,701.00
Demolition	8	404,125.00
Roofing/Siding	245	2,366,405.00
Tank	29	52,751.00
Municipal-New Construction	2	727,800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1669</b>	<b>\$23,418,414.20</b>

### **2012-2013 Goals**

- Maintain State-mandated continuing education for all staff.
- Firm and consistent enforcement of State codes to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Newington residents.

# Newington Planning & Development

# Town Planner

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## **Craig Minor, AICP** **Town Planner**

The Planning and Development Department is responsible for providing a wide range of professional and para-professional planning and zoning services to the general public, town officials, and the business community. The Department offers hands-on assistance to individuals and businesses seeking various types of zoning approval, as well as vigorous enforcement of the Town's zoning regulations.

The Department provides administrative and professional support to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), the Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ), the Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency and the Open Space Committee, as well as administrative support to the Economic Development Commission (EDC). The Department also assists the Town Council and Town Manager by meeting with developers and state officials providing a long-range perspective on development opportunities, and carrying out special projects as assigned by the Town Manager and the Town Council. The Department also represents Newington on the CRCOG Housing Committee and the New Britain-Hartford Busway Municipal Advisory Committee. The Department currently serves as the Duly Authorized Agent for the Conservation Commission.

The Department currently manages one HUD Small Cities grant and two STEAP grants.

### **Mission**

*The mission of the Town Planner's office is to assist the Town Plan and Zoning Commission maintain a high quality of life in Newington by promoting sustainable land use and economic growth that conserves the community's natural resources, as well as to assist citizens and businesses achieve their own development goals.*

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- **Town Plan and Zoning Commission:** During fiscal year 2011-2012 the Town Plan and Zoning Commission received 34 requests for approval consisting of commercial site plans, special exceptions, subdivisions, and zoning amendments, including:
  - **Residential Development:** one 48-lot open space residential subdivision.
  - **Special Exceptions:** Three free-standing commercial signs; two non-profit/charitable outdoor events; three restaurants; two retail alcohol

permits; one cosmetology school, one church (withdrawn), one crematorium (withdrawn); and one public utility.

- **New Commercial/Retail Site Plans:** one bank; one multi-tenant restaurant; one multi-tenant retail.
- **Zoning Regulations:** gas station at shopping centers.
- **Zoning Enforcement:** The Zoning Enforcement Officer investigated and acted upon 292 alleged and actual zoning violations this fiscal year.
- **Economic Development Commission:** The Economic Development Commission held its annual "Newington is Open for Business" breakfast on June 8, 2012 at the Indian Hill Country Club. Economic Development Commissioner Catherine Smith was the featured speaker.

The Commission initiated a joint venture with the Downtown Business Association to obtain business and directional signs for "Constitution Square" and Market Square Street.
- **Open Space Committee:** The Open Space Committee did not meet during the 2011-2012 fiscal year.
- **"New Meadow" Senior Housing Project:** The New Samaritan Corporation completed its work on this 32-unit affordable, age-restricted apartment building. This site is a 2.2 acre Town-owned parcel adjacent to Newington Housing Authority's Mill Street apartments, secured by a 99-year lease. The final site design included widening Mill Street, replacing sidewalks and lighting at the New Meadow apartments, and building a new 68-space parking lot for the Senior and Disabled Center under the HUD-funded Mill Street Extension project.



# Engineering Department

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## ***Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer***

The Engineering Department oversees the construction and maintenance of all activities occurring within the Town's right-of-ways. This includes work performed by developers, contractors and/or utility companies. In addition, the department serves as Wetlands Agent to the Conservation Commission & monitors all activities that may impact the wetlands and/or watercourses.

Engineering provides survey design, plans & estimates for the reconstruction efforts associated with the Town's infrastructure and related projects.

The Town Engineer administers large projects (Market Square and Mill Street Extension) requiring private construction companies participation. This effort involves continued monitoring of site operations, project administration (processing payment applications, change orders, etc.) and attending/reporting to the Downtown Revitalization Commission.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- During the 2011-12 Fiscal Year, the department granted permits for and monitored the installation of 80 private driveways, 82 gas line laterals, 5 test borings, 1 sanitary sewer lateral, 5 water laterals, 9 CATV laterals and 3 miscellaneous excavation permits for utilities and private contractors.
- After the October 2011 snowstorm, engineering assisted in logistical operations to secure a storage site for debris removal. Engineer staff assisted daily for a period three weeks with the supervision and accounting (measurement) of approximately 49,000 cubic yards of vegetative debris. This vegetative debris was processed on site into approximately 7,900 cubic yards of mulch before being hauled off-site.
- The Department continued to administer two separate sidewalk maintenance and repair contracts. One contract covered the removal and replacement of damaged sidewalk slabs. The other contract covered the raising of sidewalk slabs at locations where adjoining slabs caused tripping hazards.
- As the Wetland Agent for the Conservation Commission, staff administered fourteen applications for residential, retail and commercial sites. This administration process involves meeting with each applicant (and/or design consultant) to assist with the preparation of the permit plans for Commission review. Pursuant to Commission approval the sites are visited and inspected for the necessary erosion and sedimentation controls for compliance.
- Developed design plans & provided survey for the reconstruction of the parking lot at Firehouse #1.

Construction items included adding drainage (for a portion of roof leaders) and replacement of the concrete entrance aprons.

- Staff coordinated with the Board of Education & the concrete contractor to design & inspect installation of drainage improvements at the high school. Staff also oversaw the installation of new concrete walks at the northerly entrance of the high school.
- Provided the design, estimate and survey necessary for the construction of two paved parking lots (including drainage) at Clem Lemire Park. This portion of the park is a highly visible and highly traveled area; therefore, the design incorporated a green space between the two strategically placed lots to facilitate parking for three venues.
- Provided survey and developed design plans for the reconstruction of Lawton Avenue by the Town of Newington D.P.W. An under drain system was installed to assist in removing ground water from the reconstructed road base.
- Market Square Streetscape: This project was on hiatus through the winter months with the contractor returning in spring. In May, the contractor achieved substantial completion of construction items & has continued (very slowly) to address these punch list items for missing, incomplete or corrective measures. The Downtown Revitalization Committee has continued to meet on a regular basis to monitor & weigh in on decisions ranging from signage, trees, pavers & contractual items such as change orders.
- Mill Street Extension: This project was a recipient of a federally funded "Small Cities Grant." The contractor, Quality Construction, bid the project vastly under the estimated cost, therefore allowing the Town to negotiate (with appropriated funding approvals) change order to extend the project limits and time period of the contract. The primary benefit of these changes was the extension of improvements (paving, concrete curb and turf establishment) from the Housing Authority south (in front of the Senior Center) to Cedar street. This extension provided not only a physical improvement to the infrastructure, but created a comprehensive campus atmosphere. The Senior Center, Housing Authority and the New Meadow Elderly Housing are no joined physically and aesthetically, therefore functionally contiguous as a campus.

# Highway Department

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## ***Tom Molloy, Superintendent***

The Highway Department and its various divisions are responsible for leaf collection, snow plowing and snow removal, street sweeping, catch basin cleaning and repair, waterway maintenance, landfill operations, refuse collection and disposal, recycling, traffic signals, signage and road markings, fleet maintenance and procurement, road construction and maintenance, alterations and repairs of all Town roads and Rights of Way.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Negotiated the final contract terms and conditions for trash and recycling disposal resulting in significant savings from previous years. Effective November 16, 2012 household trash will be disposed of at Covanta Projects of Wallingford. Recyclables will be delivered to Murphy Road Recycling of New Britain.
- Drafted final bid documents for trash and recycling collection services. Bid openings were held June 6, 2012 resulting in some hauler changes. Effective July 1, 2012 the trash collection contract was awarded to Trash-Away of New Britain. The recycling collection contract was also awarded to Trash-Away of New Britain. The condominium trash collection contract was awarded to HQ Dumpsters of Southington.
- Coordinated all cleanup efforts as a result of Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011 and Storm Alfred in October 2011. Over 50,000 cubic yards of storm debris was collected and processed as a result of Storm Alfred.
- Hosted the annual MDC sponsored hazardous waste collection program on May 5, 2012.
- Continued with the annual Target Solution on line employee safety training program.
- Seven roads totaling approximately 3 miles were milled and resurfaced along with drainage improvements on various roads. Roads included in the mill and overlay program include Boylston Street (circle), Fenn Road, Fox Lane, Liberty Street, Lyondale Road, Miami Avenue and Turkey Hill Road.
- Completed the reconstruction of Lawton Avenue.
- Completed the reconstruction of Great Oak Lane.
- Completed the reconstruction of the rear of Company One Fire House parking lot.
- Appliances, scrap metal, propane tanks, used motor oil, grass clippings, leaves, and vegetation waste. Covered electronic devices are also recycled at the Landfill.
- Completed the reconstruction of a large portion of the Mill Pond pathway.
- Completed the construction of a new parking area on the west side of Newington High School.
- Highway Department personnel collected over 14,000 cubic yards of leaves from November through December. Four crews consisting of 24 people, including Parks and Grounds personnel were devoted to the program.
- Waterway maintenance continued with crews cleaning brush and debris including beaver colonies in an effort to keep the town waterways flowing properly. Catch basins were cleaned throughout Town to ensure adequate storm water flow. Annual maintenance also addresses brush and tree trimming as well as waterway dredging.
- Vegetation grinding was performed twice during the year by a private contractor with assistance from Highway personnel and equipment. The Landfill provides a disposal site for Town residents who wish to dispose of items such as metal.
- Completed the annual vegetation trimming along the banks of Piper Brook.
- Town-wide street sweeping was completed in April.
- Town-wide Christmas tree collection was completed late December / early January.
- Private contractors collected refuse at 9,218 residential homes and 2,240 condominiums and elderly housing complexes each week totaling approximately 8,273 tons of residential municipal solid waste brought to CRRRA for fiscal year 2011/2012. In addition 8,806 household bulky waste items, 765 condominium bulky waste items and 412 combined metal items were picked up curbside throughout the year. Over 371 television sets over 19" were collected & recycled.
- The Traffic Division continued with the blanket replacement of worn out regulatory signs Town-wide, continued with roadway line painting Town-wide along with assisting Highway and other departments as needed.
- The Central Repair Garage is responsible for vehicle & equipment procurement, outfitting & disposal, preventative maintenance & emergency repairs for Police, Fire, Highway, Parks & Grounds, Volunteer Ambulance, Dial-a Ride & General Government. The Central Repair Garage is also responsible for the Town's fueling facilities. Town Departments rely on repair garage personnel for emergency equipment installation, fabrication, diagnosis and repair of Town owned vehicles and equipment.

# Newington Public Works Information

## REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SEPARATION, PLACEMENT, COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE, RECYCLABLES, AND YARD VEGETATION WASTE WITHIN THE TOWN OF NEWINGTON

- **Household Rubbish:** All household refuse is to be placed in the green container provided by the Town for curbside automated collection.
- **Household Recycling:** All household recyclables are now collected Automated Single Stream in the Town provided blue container.
- **Oversized Items:** Items noted below may be placed at the curb for weekly pick up in accordance with the requirements indicated.
- **Residents must call the Town's Highway/Sanitation Department at (860) 667-5874 by Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. of each week to schedule an oversized pick up for a Thursday collection. Owners of condominiums must call by Monday 3:00 to schedule a Wednesday pick up.**
  - ◇ **Branches:** Branches placed at the curbside must be tied into bundles (individual branches cannot exceed four (4) inches in diameter or be more than four (4) feet in length) and should be light enough for one man to lift. Households are limited to five (5) bundles each week.
  - ◇ **Wooden and Upholstered Furniture, Carpeting, and other Large Household Items:** These items (mattresses, box springs, wood doors, chairs, couches, etc.) may be placed at the curbside and are limited to two (2) items each week. Items must be able to be loaded into the refuse truck by two men. Carpeting must be rolled up, less than four (4) feet in length, tied, and light enough for one man to lift. There is a limit of five (5) rolls of carpeting per week.
  - ◇ **Building Materials:** Material such as sheetrock, roofing shingles, insulation and other building materials may be disposed of at CWPM located at 475 Christian Lane, Berlin (860) 828-1162. Material disposal fees are on a per ton basis.  
**NOTE: The disposal of any remodeling or building materials generated by a contractor's work is the responsibility of the contractor and will not be included in the oversized pick up.**
  - ◇ **Automobile Tires:** Two (2) tires (rims removed) may be left at the curbside each week. Rims may be disposed of at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center.
  - ◇ **Electronics Recycling:** Beginning January 1, 2011 covered electronic devices will not be allowed in your curbside rubbish container per State law. Items such as desktop and laptop computers, computer monitors, printers, televisions must be recycled. Residents may dispose of these items at the Newington Landfill. For additional information contact the Sanitation Division at (860) 667-5874.
- **Materials Not Acceptable for Placement in the Curbside Containers:** Dangerous or environmentally unsafe materials or substances including, but not limited to, cleaning fluids, oil base paints, caustics, explosives, acids, poisons, drugs, radioactive materials, asbestos, swimming pool chemicals, etc., should be disposed of on Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days (HHWCD). Please call the Newington Sanitation Department (860) 667-5874 for a schedule of these collection days.
- **Scrap Metal:** Large appliances and other metal items are collected by the Town's contractor each week at the curbside. **Residents must pre-pay (\$10 for one item, \$5 for each additional item) at the Highway Department on Milk Lane (off Fenn Road) by Monday at 3:00 p.m. to be scheduled for Tuesday pick up. Residents also have the option of taking these items to the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center on Main Street at no charge.** Residents must show proof of residency at the Town landfill. If you have any questions, please call (860) 667-5874.
- **Leaves/Grass Clippings:** **Leaves** will continue to be collected by the Town at the curbside each fall. Residents may also take leaves to the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center but must remove leaves from bags, boxes, etc. prior to disposal at the landfill. **Grass clippings** can be left on the lawn, put into a backyard compost pile, or taken to the Town landfill. **Do not put leaves or grass clippings in either curbside container. Rubbish and recycling carts containing grass or leaves will not be emptied.**
- **Waste Motor Oil/Propane Gas Tanks:** Waste motor oil can be disposed of at the Town Highway Garage (off Fenn Road), Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center on the weekends. Oil must be delivered and in sealed containers.
- **Propane gas tanks:** From gas grills can be brought to the Town Landfill/Recycling Center.
- **Motor Vehicle Batteries:** May be brought to the Town Landfill.

**Any questions about the Town's rubbish/recycling collection programs may be directed to the Sanitation Division of the Newington Highway Department at (860) 667-5874.**

# Newington Public Works Information

## Snow Plowing Guidelines

1. Prior to a winter storm event, Highway crews will apply treated salt to all roadways.
2. Plowing begins when snow accumulation reaches one half inch (1/2") or forecasts indicate that it will. A maximum of 14 plow trucks may be called out to plow pre-determined snow routes.
3. Once snowfall has stopped, plowing and treated salt applications will continue until all Town roads are clear.

***It is the Town's policy to plow the full width of the street, curb to curb, during major storms. This ensures that the stormwater basins are obstruction-free, allowing storm water and snow melt to drain, thus preventing flooding and icing conditions.***

## Sidewalks

Residents are required to remove snow from their sidewalks within 12 hours after a snowstorm.

## Mailbox Damage

The Town will repair or replace mailbox/posts only when there is evidence of the plow or truck striking the mailbox/post (max. \$25).

The Town will not accept responsibility for mailboxes/posts which have fallen or are damaged due to the weight or force of the snow thrown by the plow.

## Winter Sand

Winter sand is available in small quantities to residents and is located at the Highway Department on Milk Lane and in sand barrels located throughout the Town.

## Town Vegetation Landfill/Recycling Center

A permit is required to dispose of vegetation. Permits may be obtained at the Highway Department, 281 Milk Lane (off of Fenn Road). No permit required for recyclables. Must show proof of residency.

Location: Main Street, south of Churchill Park  
Hours: April - December, Saturday & Sunday  
January - March, Saturday Only

## Winter Parking Bans

Parking on streets is not allowed for more than 30 minutes between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any day November through March.

Parking on any street during any snowfall or for a period of eight hours after the end of a snowfall, or which impedes or interferes with snow plowing operations, is not allowed.

## Driveways

While the Highway Department tries to minimize the amount of snow plowed into driveways, some accumulation is unavoidable.

- Plow blades cannot be lifted as they pass by a driveway as a mound of snow would be left in the roadway.
- Snow will be plowed into driveways during curb-to-curb plowing.
- Residents may wish to clear driveways several times during a storm or wait until the storm and plowing operations have ended.
- Shoveling, plowing, or blowing snow into the street may cause an accident and expose the property owner to liability.
- Clearing driveway openings is the responsibility of the property owner.

## Leaf Collection Guidelines

Leaves should be raked to the edge of the property (not into the street). Plastic bags should not be used as they cannot be recycled. Do not mix leaves with household trash, branches, sticks, or other debris. Leaves may be taken to the Town landfill on Saturdays and Sundays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A permit is not required to dump leaves at the landfill.

## Refuse Collection

Curbside collection of rubbish and recyclables will be delayed one day on these holidays (unless the holiday falls on a weekend):

Collections are made on the normal day for all other holidays. **WHEN IN DOUBT PUT IT OUT**

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| • New Years Day    | • Labor Day        |
| • Memorial Day     | • Thanksgiving Day |
| • Independence Day | • Christmas Day    |

# Newington Public Safety Police Department

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## **Richard Mulhall, Chief of Police**

### ***"To Protect and Serve."***

The Newington Police Department consists of 51 full time police officers, 1 training position, 12.5 civilian employees and 2 animal control officers. Officers maintain 24 hour uniformed service to the community in marked patrol vehicles and community services deployment. The department's commitment to the community is to preserve peace and public order, prevent and detect crime, apprehend offenders, and protect persons and property under the laws of the State of Connecticut and the ordinances of the Town of Newington.

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- **Newington Wethersfield Region Animal Control System.** With the retirement of our full time Animal Control Officer the opportunity arose to review the possibility of regionalizing the service with the Town of Wethersfield. The Police Chiefs met & discussed the matter over several months & developed a joint system that would improve coverage by 100% using four (4) part time Animal Control Officers between the two towns. Wethersfield had been using the part time employee system for years & we were able to expand that system to give 7 day week coverage to both towns at reduced costs to the citizens.

Over a period of 8 months the system was refined, recruitment was conducted, and two new ACOs joined the regional system. The new ACO's were sent to State training then system integration took place. At this time the unit is deployed in both towns and will shortly begin patrolling both communities.

- **Storms Ravage the State and Town.** In FY 2011-2012, the State endured a number of severe weather issues throughout the year. It started with record snowfalls and extreme cold during the months of in December, January, February, and March. We had a number of roof failures all over the state and the record snow amounts created many traffic hazards with the narrowing of roadways and the snow piles creating sight line problems. This was followed by an earthquake and later in the year tropical storm "Irene" which caused extensive power outages. The year ended with a freak October storm "Alfred" again caused extensive power outages and tree damage that lasted for more than a week. This freak weather pattern did have one positive effect – the lowering crime statistics across the State.
- **Murder Arrest.** In January, Detectives investigated a murder that occurred at a local motel on the Berlin Turnpike. Patrol Officers responded to the motel after a 911 call was received reporting a shooting in one of the rooms. Officers discovered a male party suffering from several gunshot wounds. The male was transported to a hospital where he was pronounced dead shortly after arrival. The victim's girlfriend was arrested and charged with Murder.
- **Accreditation Project.** In the second quarter of the FY, we began a full review and updating of our General Orders and Standard Operating Procedures. We completed this review/update project in June of 2012. The next step will be applying for State Accreditation from the

Connecticut Police Officers Standards Training Council (POSTC).

- **Town Accepts Regional SWAT Vehicle.** The department took delivery of a Rapid Deployment Vehicle (RDV) from the region to incorporate into our SWAT unit. The unit allows for the more efficient deployment of our SWAT unit and will be available to the other 8 regional SWAT units if needed. The funding for this vehicle came from the Capitol Region's Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI) grant program.



- **LINX – Navel NCIS.** The Newington Police Department joined the Northeast LINX system (see below for CT agencies). This shared information system was developed by Navel NCIS for use in and around Navel Facilities. This system was brought to Connecticut due to the Groton Sub-base. Six years ago Navel Intelligence was invited to Connecticut by Capt. John Murphy (EHPD) and Chief Rich Mulhall (NPD) after meeting them at a training conference for intelligence sharing. While the region did not have a Navel facility, the system was growing and could include many CT law enforcement agencies if approved. Over the past five years, the system expansion request wound its way through the Federal System and was finally approved for Connecticut last year. Groton PD took the lead and the system was installed. At this time, the Northeast system involves the following CT agencies:

Branford	Clinton	East Lyme	Fairfield	Groton City
Groton	Ledyard	Madison	Manchester	Meriden
Milford	Montville	New London	Newington	No. Haven
Norwalk	Norwich	Old Saybrook	Putnam	Stamford
Stonington	Waterford	Willimantic	CTIC	

The events of September 11 reinforced the significant need for all law enforcement agencies to share law enforcement information. The Linx initiative aims to enhance the flow of law enforcement information among Federal, State, and local authorities. This effort integrates law enforcement data previously contained only in each individual agency's records management systems (RMS) and provides advanced query and analytical tools which can be applied across all



# Newington Public Safety Police Department

## Highlights Continued

the law enforcement data in the warehouse. This data includes law enforcement information relating to activities, locations, crimes, suspects, vehicles, arrests, warrants, and booking photographs, etc. As new data is entered into a participating agency's RMS, this data will be replicated in the warehouse thus providing near-real time access to law enforcement/criminal justice reporting from each of the other participating jurisdictions. The NORTHEAST (NE) Linx system will assist in supporting officer safety, criminal and terrorism investigations, and the development of crime prevention and enforcement strategies.

The NE Linx data warehouse contains mirrored information derived from each contributing agency's "own records", and is not in any manner intended to be an official repository of original records, or to be used as a substitute for one, nor is the information in the system to be accorded any independent record system status. Rather, this electronic system is merely an application to facilitate the speedy sharing and querying of information that may be contributed from already existing files/RMSs of the agencies. The data will be available to serve both as a tactical and analytical tool for law enforcement officers, investigators, analysts, and agency executive decision makers.

This system has added a valuable tool to our tool belt and as the officers in each agency are trained in the system information and intelligence sharing will dramatically improve in the state. This system will enhance the upcoming CJIS Connecticut Information Shared System (CISS) that is currently under construction for Connecticut.

**Grants:** We continued to seek grant funding during the past year. We were able to successfully compete for and were awarded the following grants:

### 2011-2012 Grants

<u>2011/12</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Grant/Local</u>	<u>Percent age</u>
2011 Bulletproof vest	USDOJ	\$1,999/\$1,999	50/50
OSET-Training	PSAP	\$2,981	100
2011-12 DUI Comprehensive	DOT	\$38,175/12,700	75/25
2011-12 Click It or Ticket	DOT	\$2,400	100
2011-12 OPM Major Crime	OPM	\$150,000	100
Squad	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$195,555/14,699</b>	

### Services experienced by the Dept. are as follows:

2011— Calls for Service: 28,301; Part 1 Crimes: 900;  
Criminal Arrests: 1,096; DUI Arrests: 123;  
Traffic Violations: 7,593; MV Accidents: 1,507

## Communications—911 Calls for Service 2012

<u>Month</u>	<u>Wireline</u>	<u>VOIP</u>	<u>Wireless</u>	<u>Total Calls</u>
Jan.	315	18	623	956
Feb.	331	24	569	924
March	314	28	637	979
April	279	32	596	907
May	336	36	680	1052
June	309	22	649	980
July	302	25	718	1045
Aug.	308	29	707	1044
Sept.	301	42	658	1001
Oct.	330	38	648	1016
Nov.	292	39	651	982
Dec.	318	30	559	907
<b>YTD</b>	<b>3,735</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>7,695</b>	<b>11,793</b>



**Saint Patrick's Day Parade 2012**



**2011 McDermott Basketball Scholarship Classic  
NPD vs. 2011 Newington High School**

# Newington Public Safety

# Fire Marshal

## **Chris Schroeder, Fire Marshal**

The local Fire Marshal is responsible for the enforcement of the Connecticut Fire Safety Code and is required to:

- Inspect annually all buildings and facilities with the exception of residential buildings designed to be occupied by one or two families.
- Inspect all flammable and combustible fuel trucks registered in the town.
- Inspect the installation of flammable and combustible fuel storage tanks.
- Review all plans for new construction and conduct on site inspections to ensure code compliance.
- Establish fire lanes to ensure accessibility of fire apparatus.
- Determine the need and locations of new fire hydrants.
- Investigate all fires or explosions.
- Investigate all fire alarm dispatches to determine proper operation and compliance with the local fire ordinance.
- Issue blasting permits & be on site to ensure safety & compliance with state & federal standards.
- Respond to and investigate reported accidental or intentional release of hazardous materials.

### Major Incidents

- *October 21, 2011*-A fire originating in a clothes dryer in a condominium unit located at 156 Webster St. caused extensive damage to the unit & forced the relocation of the occupants.
- *October 30, 2011*-An accidental fire originating in the floorboards below a first floor fireplace in a single family home at 81 Robbins Avenue caused extensive damage.
- *December 3, 2011*-An electrical fire in the first floor bedroom of a two family home located at 46 Greenlawn Ave. caused extensive damage & resulted in the relocation of the family.
- *December 14, 2011*-An accidental fire started by the improper disposal of fireplace ashes totally destroyed a storage shed in the rear yard of a home located at 216 Pheasant Run.
- *December 19, 2011*-An accidental fire the result of the careless disposal of smoking materials caused extensive damage to the rear deck and garage area of a single family home at 27 Fox Lane.
- *December 31, 2011*-An accidental fire on the stove in a first floor condominium at 85 Woodsedge Drive caused extensive damage to the structure and forced the extended relocation of the occupants in all thirteen units.

- *Feb. 5, 2012*-A first floor bedroom fire caused extensive damage to a single family home at 174 Maple Hill Ave. forcing the relocation of the occupants. One firefighter was transported and treated for hypothermia exposure.
- *March 3, 2012*-A fire in a single family home at 163 Reservoir Road resulted in extensive damage to the single family home. The residence was vacant at the time of the fire.
- *April 5, 2012*-A fire originating in a first floor bedroom of a single family home at 290 Vineyard Ave. caused extensive damage & resulted in the death of both occupants. The cause remains undetermined
- *April 9, 2012*-A fire in a business located at 55 Shepard Drive caused extensive damage to the structure.
- *June 16, 2012*-An accidental fire in a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bedroom of a single family home at 219 Cambria Ave. caused moderate damage to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
- *June 27, 2012*-An electrical fire in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bathroom caused extensive damage to a single family home at 58 Coolidge Avenue.

### Statistical Summary

	<u>2010/2011</u>	<u>2011/2012</u>
Inspections & Inspection Follow-Ups	743	606
Plan Reviews	81	125
Job Site Inspections	110	28
Underground Tank Removal	01	00
Fire Investigations	8	32
Fire Alarm Trouble	15	45
Complaints	30	51
Hazmat Incidents	01	05
Bomb Threats	00	00
Blast Monitoring	03	02



# Newington Public Safety

# Newington Volunteer Fire Dept.

## ***Chris Schroeder, Chief***

The Newington Volunteer Fire Department is responsible for fire, rescue and hazardous materials response services for residential and commercial properties, provides a comprehensive Fire Prevention and Public Fire Education program designed to meet the specific requirements of both residents and commercial businesses. Oversight is provided by an elected three member Board of Fire Commissioners with powers and duties vested in it by Town Charter.

Established in 1917, the Department is an all volunteer organization comprised of approximately 140 members. A Fire Cadet program provides full-level training equal to that of active firefighters for 16 and 17 year olds interested in fire service.

### **Highlights**

- The Department held its Annual Memorial Ceremony recognizing the two department members who gave their lives in the line of duty: Company #1 Firefighter Francis Kochanowicz (6/5/62) and Company #2 Firefighter Jay Cole (12/26/64).
- Deputy Chief Thomas Gill retired after 33 years of dedicated volunteer service to the community.
- Captain Robert Regina was promoted to Deputy Chief. In addition to incident response Chief Regina's new responsibilities include building maintenance, purchasing & information technology systems.
- 48 year Company #2 member Richard Brown was selected "Volunteer of the Year" by the Newington Town Council.
- The Department participated in several events to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, American Cancer Society and the Bridgeport Burn Center.
- The Department received the Chamber of Commerce "Public Safety Award" in recognition of its 95 years of volunteer service to the community.
- The Department celebrated its 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a parade and beer garden at Mill Pond Park.
- Department personnel dedicated a 9/11 Memorial on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the attacks utilizing a piece of steel from the World Trade Center. The memorial is placed next to the flag pole in front of Fire Headquarters on Main Street to recognize all the Public Safety Officials who lost their lives in the September 2001 attacks.
- The Department continued to provide public fire safety education programs covering a large variety

of topics to area businesses, schools, daycare centers, health care and assisted living facilities.

- The Department held a "Tip-A-Firefighter" fund raiser at TGI Friday's Restaurant to support American Cancer Society Relay for Life.
- Six new members joined the department during the year and have completed their Firefighter I Certification training. In addition six new Fire Cadets joined our Cadet Division. Eight members left the department during the year, three members with less than ten years of service each and three veteran members who retired with a combined eighty nine years of service. Three department members are currently on military leave.

### **Statistical Summary**

	<u>2010/2011</u>	<u>2011/2012</u>
Residential	225	281
Commercial, Industrial, Office	45	61
Hospitals, Schools	12	11
Vehicle	12	25
Rescue, Police Assist	32	25
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass Brush, Leaves	44	37
Hazard Materials/ Clean-Up	40	47
Investigative Alarms	305	244
False Alarms	0	0
Mutual Aid	21	36
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	14	84
Water Related Incidents/ Pump-Outs	39	45
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>896</b>

# Newington Public Schools

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## ***Dr. William C. Collins, Superintendent***

The Newington Public School System consists of four elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school. An elected nine member Board of Education, whose powers and duties are specified by Connecticut General Statutes, provides policy oversight and direction to the school administration.

### **Mission**

*The Mission of the Newington Public School System, an educational partnership of school, family and community, is to ensure every student acquires the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to continue to learn, live a productive life, and contribute to a diverse, rapidly changing society. This is accomplished within a caring environment through a planned program of quality learning experiences that challenge and encourage each individual to reach full potential.*

### **Vision**

*Every Student—College, Career and Citizenship ready*

### **District Goal**

*All students performing below benchmark/goal will make more than a year's growth in a year's time.*

### **Theory of Action**

*If we develop a shared vision of effective teaching, we will move the needle for ALL students.*

## **Anna Reynolds Elementary School**

*– Dr. Jeremy Visone, Principal*

To accomplish our goal, we:

- Implemented a new math curriculum in Kindergarten with an emphasis on the improving students' number sense abilities.
- Observed other colleagues teach at each grade level.
- Participated in optional book clubs designed to build teacher capacity within the readers' workshop model.
- Conducted grade level meetings that helped to support instruction in the classroom and served as professional development.
- Provided Tier II (small group, pull out) reading and math intervention that did not interfere with Tier I instruction (classroom).
- Created short-term learning goals at our grade level data teams to focus on specific skills in need of more attention.
- Fully implemented Positive Behavioral Supports that will help our students to learn and live our Anna Reynolds Elementary School expectations, complete with colorful expectation grids, explicit lessons to teach the expectations, and several new positive reinforcement strategies (ex. bullet filling, classroom bracelets, and principal's lunch pals).

## **Elizabeth Green Elementary School**

*– Jennifer Michno, Principal*

The 2011-2012 school year was an exciting year of changes and growth for the students and staff at Elizabeth Green Elementary School replete with a multitude of efforts at promoting the continued improvement of student achievement, both academically and socially. Highlights include:

- Continued refinement of an academic professional learning community characterized by the facets of data driven decision making, including: the development of short-term learning goals at grade-level data team meetings to focus on specific skills in more need of attention; collaborative scoring of district-wide assessments; and the continued identification and implementation of high-yielding instructional strategies to meet individual student needs.
- A school climate initiative whereby staff implemented school-wide character education programming to reinforce the "Elizabeth Green Constitution" and began to explore ways to monitor and analyze student behavior through the use of data.
- Professional staff development support through the powerful web-based tool, PD360, which focused teacher professional development on specific areas of teacher need and interest.

## **John Paterson Elementary School**

*– Debra Grainsky, Principal*

The 2011-2012 school year was one of excitement and growth, for both students and staff, at John Paterson Elementary School. Highlights include the following:

- Readers' Workshop was implemented across all grade levels
- Math Workshop Model was piloted in kindergarten and grade three
- A new office referral process for behavioral disruptions was developed and implemented which helped solidify when office referrals should be made, and their likely consequence.
- Students received weekly recognition from the principal for positive behavior, acts of kindness, and overall improvement in the form of Grainsky-Grams.
- School and grade level teams met on a regular basis to review incoming student results in both the academic and behavioral realms.
- The Chorus delighted an audience by singing at the Opening of the Race for the Cure in May.

## **Ruth Chaffee Elementary School**

*– Richard DeBellis, Principal*

The 2011-2012 school year was one of excitement and growth, for both students and staff, at John Paterson Elementary School. Highlights include the following:

# Newington Public Schools

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## **Ruth Chaffee Elementary School-Cont'd.**

- Developed a new School Improvement Plan for the 2012 / 2013 school year.
- Completed the Five-Year Progress Report for the NEAS&C.
- Implemented the Reader's Workshop Model across all grade levels.
- Refined the use of the Data Driven Decision Making process (DDDM) to address children's academic needs through the implementation of effective teaching strategies to reinforcement concepts.
- Using the SRBI framework, behavioral needs were more formally addressed during the weekly Early Intervention Plan (EIP) process where data was collected and strategies implemented to address specific behavioral issues.
- Continued to fully support the initiatives / family events sponsored by the PTA.

## **John Wallace Middle School**

– *David Milardo, Principal*

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Six "School Family" meetings were held this past year, the purpose of which is to help every student develop personal connections with their teachers and fellow students across each grade level. Each lesson focused on one of the Wallace P.R.I.D.E. pillars (Preparation, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Excellence).
- Completion of the NEAS&C self-study report in preparation for the reaccreditation site visit Oct. 14-17, 2012.
- Implemented the new Reader's Workshop model across all grade levels (5-8).
- Introduced and made available, an Algebra 1-1 class (high school level course) in grade 7 to provide students with an opportunity to accelerate their math course progression.
- Development of a School Data Team, comprised of twelve members across all grade levels and content areas. The team used the data driven decision-making process to identify an area of need (increasing pro-social behavior) and developed strategies to target area of identified need. A new referral process will be implemented in 2012-13 with continued professional development in logical consequences.
- Development of a School Climate Committee, comprised of fifteen staff members representative of all grade levels and content areas. The mission of the School Climate Committee is "to promote pro-social behavior among all John Wallace Middle School students and to create and sustain a safe, secure learning environment for the entire John Wallace community".
- Development of grade level data teams to analyze student performance data that was used to inform instruction & implement research-based instructional strategies for targeted areas of weakness in student performance.

- Student Senate sponsored various social events, charitable fund-raising project, clothing/food drives, and outreach to families.
- Performances by Showchoir delighted audiences at each elementary school, at Blue Back Square (West Hartford) and at the summer Extravaganza.
- Participation by students in the town wide art show, winter and spring music concerts, school clubs and activities, and active involvement in the community programs and projects.
- Performances by a number of cultural groups and student programs and activities were sponsored by the Wallace Parent Advisory Council (PAC).
- Promoted teacher-student connections and healthy activities through the continuation of intramurals and after-school tournaments.

## **Martin Kellogg Middle School**

– *Jason S. Lambert - Principal*

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- Ongoing use of student achievement data to inform common and consistent instructional strategies among staff (tier 1 intervention), and the further development of early intervention initiatives to assist students in need of support (SRBI tiers 1 & 2), EIP & Data Teams).
- Implementation of "Above the Line" school climate and culture initiative to increase attendance rates and decrease behavior referrals.
- Implementation of Readers Workshop model in all grades 5-8 language arts classes.
- Completion of the learning standards and learning area reports for NEASC Accreditation Process.
- Participation in a variety of fundraisers, social events, and celebrations that provide the student council with funds to support many worthwhile endeavors at Kellogg.
- Participation in various charitable initiatives through Student Council.
- Continued "Battle of the Books" which included grade 6 teachers and students from John Wallace Middle School.
- Maintained our sister school partnership, through participation in the AMISTAD program to give students opportunities to interact with students from urban environments.
- Attended the Colonial Boston program to Boston & Plymouth, MA, which included touring various monuments and historical sites of the Colonial Period.
- Attended grade 8 trips to Washington DC, which included touring various national monuments and touring various museums and exhibitions relevant to the grade 8 social studies curriculum.
- Produced the musical "The Sound of Music"
- Completed our School Improvement Plan to include specific and measurable action plans targeting the areas of math, reading and behavior.

# Newington Public Schools

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## **Newington High School**

– Mr. James Wenker, Principal

### **2011-2012 Highlights**

- A Performance Based Student Management (PBSM) system was instituted. Both academic and behavioral thresholds were established and individual student programs were adjusted according to levels of performance attained.
- A new Open Technology Policy was instituted, allowing students to use personal electronic devices throughout the building.
- Over 24 clubs and activities were available for students. Other programs and events held during the school year included musicals, dances, and special programs to recognize diversity at Newington High School.
- The “Truth about Hate” was presented to all tenth and eleventh graders. The program sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League promotes tolerance regarding issues of race, ethnicity and gender preference.
- The NHS Ice Hockey and Boys’ Volleyball teams both won the State Championship. Several other athletic teams captured league championships and qualified for the State Tournaments as well. A number of students were recognized for their personal achievements.
- The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test was administered to 661 tenth & eleventh grade students in Oct.
- Administered Advance Placement (AP) exams to 194 students this year.
- The school counseling department visited many college campuses to develop stronger relationships with colleges and universities.
- After school CAPT preparation program was offered to all students.
- The NHS math team qualified for the State competition for the second year in a row. This year’s completion will be held at EO Smith High School in Storrs.
- Through the cooperation of the town Engineering Dept., we instituted mini lessons using surveying equipment (transits) & have plans for expanding the use of them.
- We instituted an SRBI universal screener for the first time. The assessments were given to all students in pre-algebra I, geometry and algebra II (approximately 1,000 students) and was used to provide students with intervention on basic math skills.
- We began looking at the new units of study for algebra I, geometry and algebra II based on the Common Core State Standards. We will rewrite our algebra I curriculum this summer based on these new standards and develop a plan and timeline for Geometry and Algebra II.
- Successfully merged the English & Social Studies departments under one Humanities title & leadership.
- Shared instructional strategies between English and Social Studies teachers, especially in the area of building writing skills.
- Expanded reading services by expanding staff and offering additional support for academic reading, skill development, and individualized needs.

## **Newington High School Highlights—Continued**

- Instituted a system of progress monitoring in reading classes in preparation for an expanded SRBI program in reading.
- Expanded interdisciplinary ventures with other departments, including an extensive cooperative series of activities between the art department and Honors English 10 in Romanticism and Impressionism.
- Brought individuals running for political office to speak to the Political Science and American Government classes prior to the November election.
- Brought veterans into social studies classes to speak about their experiences past and present.
- Teachers mentored 14 pre-teaching observers from Central Connecticut State University who observed classes, networked with teachers, and taught individual classes.
- Developed an alternative reading intervention for juniors who did not successfully meet Goal level on the CAPT Reading and Writing to replace the senior intervention course over the next two years.
- Enhanced teacher comprehension and application of the newly-implemented Common Core State Standards through departmental presentation and discussion of each standard and grade level expectation and its impact on text choices, curriculum activities, and assessment.
- The Department again celebrated World Language Week in April and hosted an International Dinner for all language students. Over 160 students, parents and staff attended the dinner on April 10.
- In May, thirty-seven World Language students were inducted into all four of the National Language Honor Societies. Students participated in state and national contests and teachers attended state and regional conferences. Also in May, the Department hosted an artist from Mexico and sponsored workshops for students.
- Two science data teams were developed. One included Biology teachers & the other Physical Science teachers. Teams met weekly to collaborate on data collected & discuss improvement strategies. Individual teachers used their data to inform instruction within their classroom.
- Common Formative Assessments for each State Standard in Physical Science were implemented and scores entered into INFORM for use by individual teachers and the Data Team members.
- Summer Reading packets for students entering grade 10 have been personalized to help students review State Standards in Physical Science that were difficult for them based upon Common Formative Assessment data.
- The students and staff at the Transition Academy were recognized by the Newington Human Services Department as outstanding volunteers in the Newington community. The Human Services Department held a ceremony at the Transition Academy and presented certificates of appreciation to the students and staff for their on-going contributions to the Newington community. The goal of the Transition Academy is to involve our students in community experiences to learn life and career skills as well as become good citizens of our town through volunteering.

# Boards and Commissions

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## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONITORING AGENCY**

Established by the Town Council in 1991, the Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency is responsible for the preparation, adoption and administration of standards for selecting eligible households to participate in affordable housing programs in Newington.

## **COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED**

The Commission on Aging and Disabled, consisting of nine (9) members, is responsible for monitoring and assessing the needs of seniors and people with disabilities in the community. It also provides policy oversight for the Senior and Disabled Center.

## **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

Created by State Statute, the Board of Assessment Appeals provides a means to review and revise the taxable values of real estate and personal property established by the Town Assessor. The Board serves as the first level of appeal, and its actions are binding until a successful appeal is taken to the Superior Court. While no fees are charged and representation by legal counsel is not necessary, the taxpayer must appear before the Board.

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION/ INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY**

The Conservation Commission, comprised of seven (7) regular and three (3) alternate members, is responsible for advising and making recommendations to the Town Manager, Town Council, and other boards and commissions concerning the development and conservation of natural resources, which include water resources within the territorial limits of the Town.

As the Town's designated Inland Wetlands Agency, the Commission is responsible for regulating activities that affect the inland wetlands and watercourses of the Town in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes. As such, the Commission has the power to develop and adopt regulations protecting and preserving inland wetlands and watercourses for Town Council approval. In addition, the Commission is charged with administering the regulations under its authority.

## **DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

The Development Commission, consisting of nine (9) regular members and three (3) alternate members, is established for the promotion and growth of the development resources of the Town of Newington.

## **DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

The Downtown Revitalization Committee was established in June 2008 to oversee grant funding used to revitalize the Town's center. The seven (7) member

Committee is comprised of members of the Town Council, Development Commission and the public.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Board of Education consists of nine (9) members elected at each regular Town election for a term of two years. State Statute charges the Board of Education with maintaining public elementary and secondary schools, implementing the educational interest of the State, and providing such other educational activities as in its judgment best serve the interests of the school district.

## **EMPLOYEE INSURANCE AND PENSION BENEFITS COMMITTEE**

The Employee Insurance and Pension Benefits Committee (EIPBC) is composed of nine (9) regular and two (2) alternate members who oversee all aspects of the health insurance programs and pension benefits for employees. The Committee is appointed by the Town Council and serves to oversee the EIPBC Agent of Record. The Committee determines the needs and develops specifications for the employee insurance and pension benefits program, reviews all submitted insurance proposals, periodically reviews employee insurance benefits, and makes recommendations to the Town Manager and Council.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

Activities of the Environmental Quality Commission date back to 1986, when the Town Council established the Environmental Quality Committee. In October 1987, the Town Council established (by Ordinance) a permanent commission and outlined its scope of authority. The Commission is charged with addressing issues affecting environmental concerns or the quality of life within the town.

Eleven (11) Commissioners are appointed by the Town Council for two year terms. Representation on the Commission includes members of the Newington Fire Department, Volunteer Ambulance, local industry and the Public. There are also five (5) student liaisons representing the two middle schools and the high school.

## **BOARD OF ETHICS**

The Board of Ethics is comprised of seven (7) regular and two (2) alternate members appointed by the Town Council, including two registered Democrats, two registered Republicans, and three unaffiliated or other party registered voters. The Board (a) has the authority to recommend action pertaining to the Code of Ethics to the Town Council, Town Manager, and Board of Education or the Superintendent of Schools; and (b) establish procedures by which the public may initiate complaints alleging a violation of the Code of Ethics.

# Boards and Commissions

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## **FAIR RENT COMMISSION**

The Fair Rent Commission is comprised of five (5) regular and three (3) alternate members. It has the authority to make studies and investigations, conduct hearings, and receive written complaints relative to rental charges or proposed increases in rental charges on housing accommodations in Newington.

## **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

Pursuant to an act adopted in 1929, the Board of Fire Commissioners was established to manage and control the Newington Fire Department. The Board, comprised of three (3) elected Commissioners, is responsible for the supervision and care of all Fire Department buildings, equipment, and apparatus.

## **HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The Newington Housing Authority was established in 1973 by the Town Council and charged with the responsibility of providing housing for the Town of Newington's elderly population.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to promote mutual understanding and respect among all racial, religious, ethnic, and other groups, and to secure equality of, and opportunity for, all people. The Commission seeks compliance with State and Federal laws regarding discrimination. Complaints regarding discrimination can be filed through the Department of Human Services.

## **LIBRARY BOARD**

The Board of Directors of the Lucy Robbins Welles Library, Newington's public Library, is comprised of twelve (12) directors, six (6) of whom are appointed by the Town Council and six (6) of whom are appointed by the Library corporation. Membership is open to any resident of the Town of Newington. The Library Board is charged with managing the affairs of the Library. The Library's operations are funded by the Town of Newington.

## **OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

The Open Space Committee was established in December 2009 to determine the means to acquire, preserve and protect Cedar Mountain and various other open space parcels throughout the Town. The eleven (11) member Committee is comprised of various members of the Town Council. TPZ, Conservation Commission and the public.

## **BOARD OF PARKS & RECREATION**

The Board of Parks & Recreation consists of eleven (11) members who determine the use of Town parks,

public greens, and other public grounds. The Board also plans and arranges recreational facilities and programs for the Town.

## **COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY**

The Committee on Community Safety was formed to determine the needs and potential solutions for ensuring the safety of the community, with consideration to future budgetary requirements. The Committee is comprised of thirteen (13) members, three (3) from the Newington Town Council, two (2) from the Board of Education, one (1) from the Youth-Adult Council, and seven (7) from the public.

## **STANDING INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

The Standing Insurance Committee, comprised of nine (9) regular and two (2) alternate members, is responsible for (a) the determination of needs and specifications for Town insurance; (b) recommendation to the Town Council of the appointment and termination of the Agent of Record; (c) recommendation to the Town Council of a proposed Town insurance program; and (d) the Workers Compensation insurance provided by the Town.

## **TOWN PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION**

The Newington Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ) is a citizen body of seven (7) regular and three (3) alternate members appointed by the Town Council. The Commission's meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Wednesdays. TPZ members also devote time to serve on the Town Center Study Committee, Open Space Committee, New Britain-Hartford Busway Municipal Advisory Committee, and the Capitol Region Council of Government Planning Commission.

## **YOUTH-ADULT COUNCIL**

The Youth-Adult Council acts as an advisory board to the Human Services Department. Appointed by the Mayor, its purpose is to review youth and family issues and foster community education and support among Town agencies and residents. The school system, community groups, concerned citizens and young people all participate in monthly meetings aimed at sharing information and coordinating services.

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

A bipartisan appointed body of five (5) regular and three (3) alternate members, the Zoning Board of Appeals' primary function is to hear applications for variances from the Zoning Regulations in which enforcement of regulations could result in a hardship. The Board also hears cases in which the applicant alleges errors in the Zoning Enforcement Officer's orders.

# Summary of Town of Newington



## Financial Report 2011-2012



# Town Finances FY 2011-2012

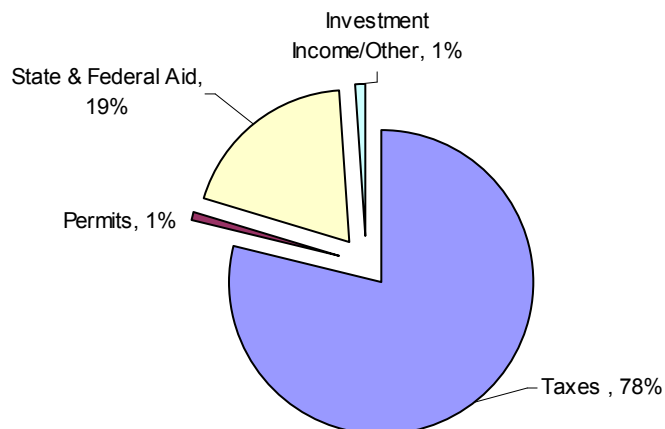
- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2011-12 totaled \$102,602,993.
- The Mill Rate was 30.02
- The Town's high credit rating of AA by Standard and Poor's was reaffirmed and during a global recalibration of ratings, Moody's Investor Services increased the Town's rating to Aa2.
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 98.97% on the current levy.
- The Town's bond indebtedness at June 30, 2012 totaled \$11,690,000.
- The Town's actual expenditures were \$101,536,176 and actual revenues totaled \$103,123,408.

The comparative budgetary information, by function and funding source is presented here. A detailed document of the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is on file in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town's website.

## **Actual Town Revenues for 2011-12, by Source** (\$ thousands)

Source	2010-11	2011-12	\$ Change
<b>Taxes</b>	77,704	80,895	3,191
<b>Permits</b>	194	278	84
<b>State &amp; Federal Aid</b>	16,805	20,006	3,201
<b>Service Charges</b>	510	488	(22)
<b>Investment Income</b>	123	67	(56)
<b>Other</b>	596	1,389	793
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95,932</b>	<b>103,123</b>	<b>7,191</b>

## **Town Revenues for 2011-12, by Source**

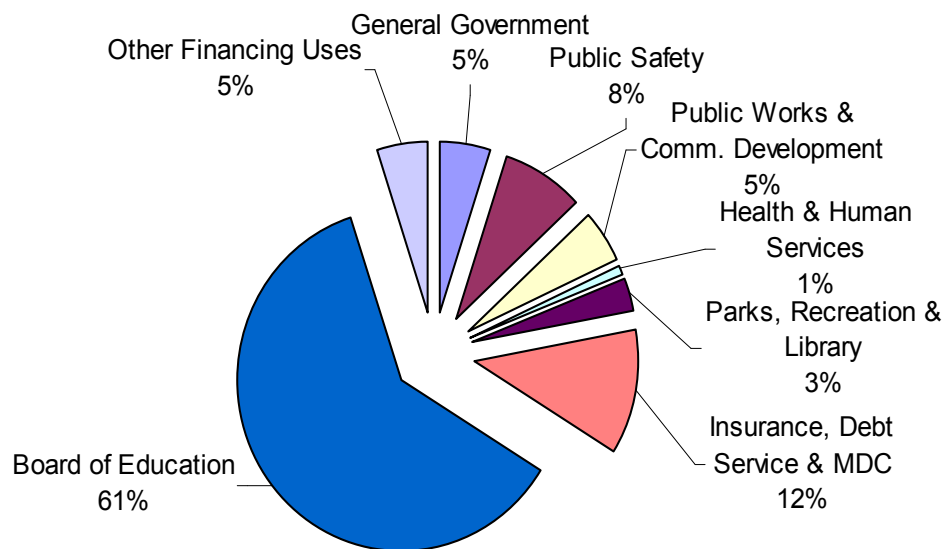


# Town Finances FY 2011-2012

## Actual Town Expenditures for FY 2011-12, by Function (\$ thousands)

Function	2010-11	2011-12	\$ Change
General Government	3,905	4,011	106
Public Safety	7,214	7,528	314
Public Works & Comm. Development	5,098	6,698	1,600
Health & Human Services	1,074	1,092	17
Parks, Recreation & Library	3,039	3,213	174
Insurance, Debt Service & MDC	12,184	12,737	553
Board of Education	59,207	61,299	2,092
Other Financing Uses	5,026	4,958	(68)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96,748</b>	<b>101,536</b>	<b>4,788</b>

### Town Expenditures for FY 2011-12, By Function



# Town Finances FY 2011-2012

**Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2012**  
**(in thousands)**

Function	Amount
Schools	7,035
General Purpose	4,655
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,690</b>

**Schedule of Debt Principal and Interest by Year as of June 30, 2012**  
**(in thousands)**

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2013	1,800	436	2,236
2014	1,780	385	2,165
2015	1,355	332	1,687
2016	950	283	1,233
2017	950	246	1,196
2017-2022	3,430	734	4,164
2022-2025	1,425	107	1,532
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,690</b>	<b>2,523</b>	<b>14,213</b>



